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AMERICAN

# SURVIVAL

THE MAGAZINE FOR SAFER LIVING

NOVEMBER 1987 Vol. 9 No. 11

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GUIDE



NEW M9 MILITARY BAYONET

**AVOIDING  
GAME  
HANDLER'S  
DISEASE**

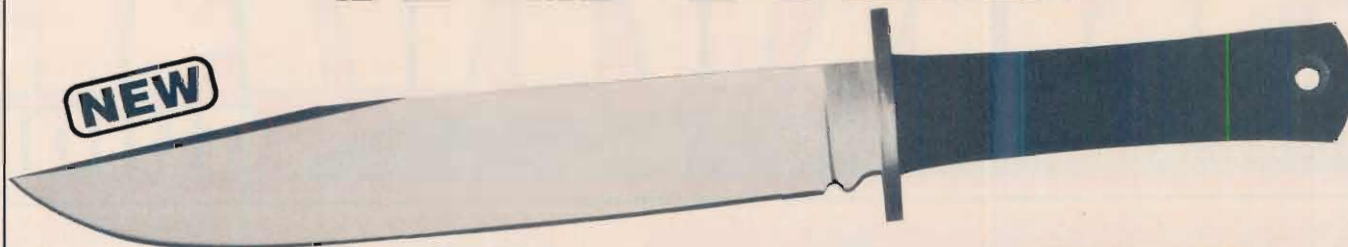
**WIN THIS  
M1A RIFLE!**  
OTHER GREAT PRIZES  
SEE P. 62



**STREET GANGS:  
CRIMINAL BEHAVIOR REINFORCED**



# HOT PRICES ON COLD STEEL™



## Trail Master Bowie

We are proud to introduce this brand new Cold Steel Bowie knife designed by Lynn C. Thompson. The massive clip point blade is flat ground out of 5/16" stock and sports a beautiful satin finish. The steel used in the construction is an exclusive high carbon steel rolled to Cold Steel's exact specifications. Great care has been taken in heat

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AMERICA

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our low price!!**

## Shinobu Folders

This brand new series of lockbacks designed by Lynn C. Thompson offers 3 important advances in design and materials. First, every blade reflects Lynn's original reinforced point design which offers maximum resistance to chipping, bending or breaking. Second, each blade is ground out of costly San Mai III™ steel, a brand new stainless steel laminate consisting of a hard core enveloped by spring steel sides, forge welded into one inseparable piece. Third, every knife offers a true non-slip, shock absorbing Pachmayr®-type grip made of deeply checkered Thermorun™.

### Medium Shinobu Tanto

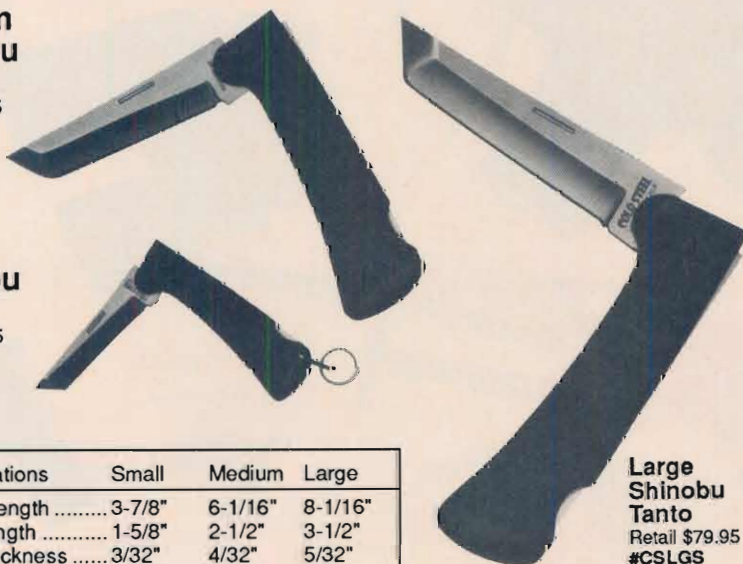
Retail \$59.95  
#CSMDS

Our Price  
**\$47.50**

### Small Shinobu Tanto

Retail \$24.95  
#CSSMS

Our Price  
**\$19.95**



Specifications	Small	Medium	Large
Overall length .....	3-7/8"	6-1/16"	8-1/16"
Blade length .....	1-5/8"	2-1/2"	3-1/2"
Blade thickness .....	3/32"	4/32"	5/32"
Weight .....	1.8 oz.	2.1 oz.	4.5 oz.
Sheath .....	None	Nylon	Nylon

### Large Shinobu Tanto

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## Master Tanto

The key to the Master Tanto's phenomenal strength is its San Mai III™ laminated stainless steel blade. This lamination is created during the forging process where a hard stainless core is wrapped with spring steel "skins". These three pieces are then hammer forged into one inseparable piece of steel. Due to the difficulty of this welding process, over 20% of all blades must be rejected. However, the remaining 80% are so tough that they can withstand inhuman abuse and remain fully functional.

The Master Tanto is 11" overall with blade length of 5-3/4", blade thickness of 3/16".

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**NEW**

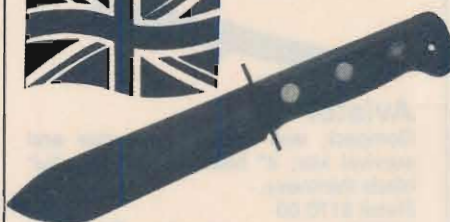
## Mark II CS

Here's Cutlery Shoppe exclusive—an "angled blade" Gerber Mark II that you can afford to own and use. We made special arrangements with Gerber to make up a special series of Mark II's with the original 5° canted blade for comfortable wear and handling, 440-A stainless blade, Cordura™ sheath and the special "Cat's Tongue" non-slip handle.

A Cutlery Shoppe Exclusive

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Retail Price \$59.95

#JSM4

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## EK S/F

## Commando Knife

6 1/4" blade 12 1/2" overall. Rockwell 57-59 full tang. Includes high quality olive drab lined nylon sheath. Handle wrapped with 18' parachute cord.

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## EK M-3

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M-4 Also available but not shown. Double edge version of the M-3.

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#CRS1 ..... Our Price **\$209.95**



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#CRAV ..... Our Price **\$129.95**



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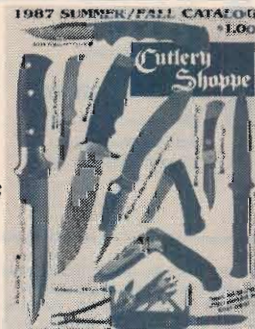
## USMC Ka-Bar

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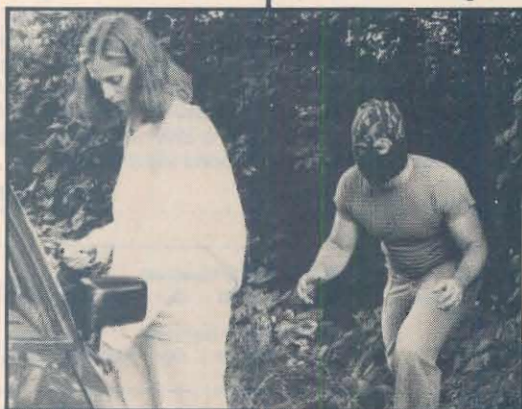
# AMERICAN SURVIVAL GUIDE

NOVEMBER, 1987 VOLUME 9, NUMBER 11

THE MAGAZINE FOR SAFER LIVING

**COVER:**  
Springfield Armory's M1A rifle is an improved version of the military 7.62 NATO infantry weapon. Win this rifle, or other great prizes in ASG's 1987 Giveaway No. 2. See page 62 (photo by Jim Benson).

Page 36



- 8 Army Bayonet**  
Multi-purpose combat tool, now available to civilians.
- 9 Survival Line**  
Radon gas in U.S. homes, Killer bees closer, *Pravda* in English.
- 10 To the Point**  
Future course of international terrorism.
- 12 Book Reviews**  
1988 Shooter's Bible, complete bladesmith, survival chemist, more.
- 13 Mail Call**  
Letters from the survivalist community.
- 14 New Products**  
Equipment of interest to the self-reliant.
- 16 Home Defense**  
Be prepared before, during, after break-ins.

- 20 Beretta Knives**  
New line of fine knives from the famous gunmaker.
- 22 M1A Rifle**  
Improved semiauto version of the military M14.
- 32 Back to School**  
Steps to help protect your loved ones.
- 36 Attack from Behind**  
Most criminal assaults come at you from the rear.
- 43 Grain Grinder**  
Efficient electric kitchen mill from Nitro Pak.
- 44 Hotline**  
American and Soviet crisis communications.
- 48 Better Safe**  
Making your home and life more secure.

- 50 Survivalist Directory**  
Confidential listing for survivalists seeking communication.
- 56 Rural Living Security**  
Planning ahead for trouble in remote areas.
- 58 Megadeath Weapons**  
Mass killers of the terrorist arsenal.
- 62 Giveaway**  
Win a Springfield Armory M1A, .22 carbine, Predator knife.
- 64 Street Gangs**  
Every city in America has street gangs.

- 70 Classified Ads**  
Messages of interest to survivalists.
- 72 Game Handler's Disease**  
A small cut can cause serious trouble.
- 74 M1 Garand Conversion**  
Military weapon to hunting rifle in minutes.
- 76 Knots**  
Knowing the right knot can save lives.



Page 58



Page 44

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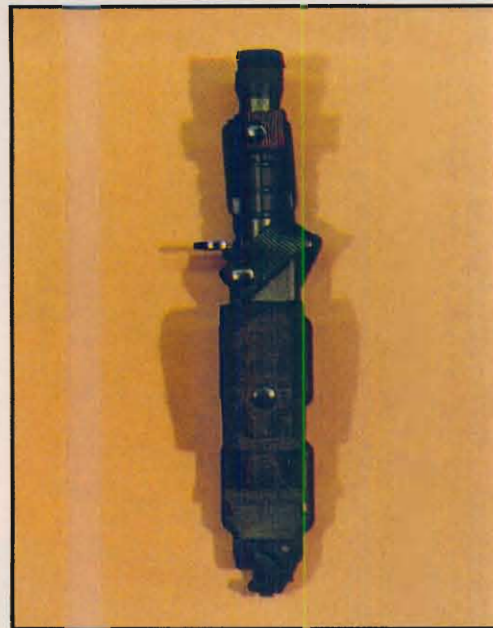
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**IRONCLAD MONEY-BACK GUARANTEE**



## Buck Knives, Phrobis III Ltd.:



## New Army Bayonet

*This multi-purpose combat tool is being made available to civilians as well . . .*

### Staff Report

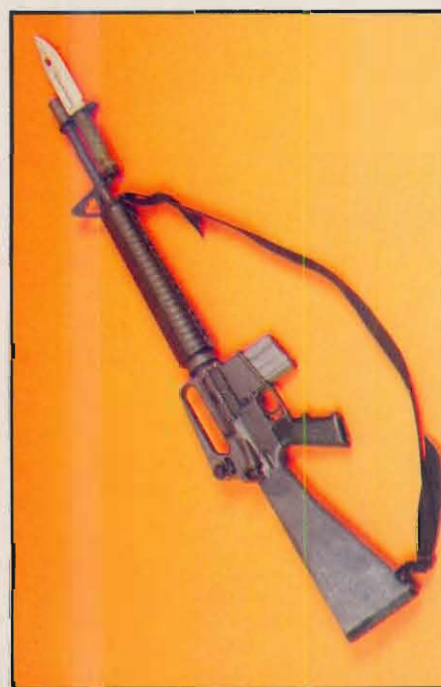
**T**HE Army's new M9 Bayonet is billed as a multi-purpose tool, useful for such tasks as cutting through aircraft skin, sawing wood and rope, opening cans and bottles and cutting barbed wire as well as for close-quarters/hand-to-hand fighting.

More than 315,000 of these new bayonets, made by Buck Knives of El Cajon, California, for Phrobis III Ltd. of Ocean-side, California, will be delivered to the Army over a three-year period and most will be issued to close combat troops such as Special Forces, Rangers and combat engineers.

After using the M7 bayonet for the M16 rifle for a quarter century, the Army said it

wanted a better tool because it found that many soldiers were carrying special knives and wire cutters to perform tasks the double-edged M7 bayonet could not be used for.

The M9 is issued with troops with a high impact plastic sheath with built-in sharpening stone on the sheath's back. The bayonet and sheath together weigh about 1.75 pounds. The single-edged M9's 7-inch-long, 1/4-inch thick blade is made of high grade, corrosion-resistant steel with a serrated top edge. It can cut or saw through rope, wood, steel or ice and steel bands on ammunition boxes. Used with the scabbard it can cut barbed wire. The



glass-filled handle is insulated to withstand electrical shocks of up to 240 volts in case electrified wire is cut.

The M9 bayonet ASG staffers were loaned from Buck Knives weighs in at 15 ounces without scabbard, just under 1 pound, and is about 12 1/2 inches long overall. It mounts on standard M16/AR-15 barrels.

This knife was chosen in Army field tests over entries from several foreign countries and passed or exceeded all technical specifications required of it, according to Army spokesmen. These bayonets, and the sheaths made by Phrobis and Bianchi, will fit on most web gear and large belts, and are also being made for sale to civilians. ●





# SURVIVAL LINE

**Radon gas problem in U.S. homes may be bigger than previously thought, African honeybees spreading closer to continental U.S., FBI crime computer information expansion urged, Pravda English language edition . . .**

**R**ADON, the colorless, odorless, cancer-causing gas, may be more of a nationwide problem than previously thought. According to the deputy director of the Environmental Protection Administration, EPA, James Barnes, "radon may be a problem in virtually every state."

Last winter the EPA began an in-depth survey of radon contamination in 10 states: Alabama, Colorado, Connecticut, Kansas, Kentucky, Michigan, Rhode Island, Tennessee, Wisconsin, and Wyoming. Of a total of 11,600 homes studied within these states, 21 percent were found to contain radon levels exceeding EPA safety guidelines.

This winter the EPA plans another survey, this time of seven states: Arizona, Indiana, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Missouri, North Dakota, and Pennsylvania. Surveys are conducted in winter because homeowners leave windows and other vents closed allowing radon concentrations to build up.

For more information on the radon problem see *ASG*, April 1987, "Radon The Hidden Danger."

**Killer Bees Getting Closer**—The African honeybee, first introduced into Brazil more than 30 years ago, continues to spread north at a rate of 200 to 300 miles a year. An estimated 2 million colonies of Africanized bees have swarmed over the countries of South America and have spread into the southern tip of Mexico.

The Africanized bees, popularly known as "killer bees" represent a threat on two fronts. First, they are extremely aggressive and once agitated will follow and attack an intruder over great distances. While the strength of their venom is the same as regular honeybees, the Africanized bees tend to sting a victim (human or animal) in such massive numbers that many victims die. Some estimates put the number of human fatalities throughout South America as high as 4,000 individuals over the past 30 years.

The second threat posed by Africanized bees is to agriculture. Should the Africanized bees interbreed with honeybees in the U.S., the swarms may be uncontrollable and not suitable for pollinating the \$20 billion a year U.S. fruit and vegetable crop.

U.S. and Mexican officials are mounting an attack on the bees using genetic and chemical methods in an effort to keep them from moving north. A number of scientists working on the problem say there

is little hope of stopping them before they reach the U.S. sometime in the early 1990s. They compare current programs aimed at stopping the bees to an agricultural Maginot Line.

**Crime Computer Expansion**—A new proposal by a Federal advisory committee has called for greatly expanding the FBI's National Crime Information Center, NCIC, computer system.

The NCIC already contains information on people arrested for serious offenses, missing persons, stolen property, and on those for whom arrest warrants have been issued. The system handles more than 500,000 information requests from local police departments each day.

The new proposal calls for adding to the system the "capability to track the movement" of persons under investigation for whom no arrest warrant has been issued. Included within this group are people who "are a danger to law-enforcement officers" and people who are known or suspected "operatives of foreign governments."

The panel also recommended that the NCIC begin storing information about the genetic characteristics of people for whom arrest warrants have been issued. According to the panel a record of genetic analysis would help authorities make "positive identification of an individual."

**Pravda In English**—For years any American with a shortwave radio has been able to listen to Radio Moscow. While much of the information broadcast by the Soviets can be categorized as pure propaganda, the broadcasts do serve as a useful barometer of U.S.-Soviet tensions.

Thanks to a British publisher, Americans now have yet another way to assess U.S.-Soviet relations. *Pravda*, the daily newspaper published by the Central Committee of the Communist Party, is now available in an English language monthly digest form. For \$1.95 at most newsstands, Americans can now read tidbits like this movie review: "It is not so long ago that the libellous film *Amerika* was shown on television, again fabricated to instill in Americans a fear of the mythical Soviet aggression . . . A true irony of history is that the bellicose, imperialistic power which is trying to frighten the whole world has frightened itself first and foremost, and now it is levying 'payment for fear' from its own citizens." ●

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# TO THE POINT

## *Grim predictions of greater terrorist violence . . .*

**T**ERRORIST attacks will grow in number and severity over the next decade and large-scale incidents involving hundreds of deaths will become more common, according to an authority on terrorism with the Rand Corporation.

"Overall," says Brian Jenkins in his article, "The Future Course of International Terrorism," in the July-August issue of *The Futurist* magazine, "the annual growth rate in the volume of terrorist activity has been approximately 10 to 12 percent. If that rate of increase continues, we could see between 800 and 900 incidents a year by the end of the decade."

But Jenkins, who is head of the Rand Corporation's political science department, believes terrorist attacks involving nuclear weapons "is neither imminent nor inevitable."

While this view is contrary to what other observers believe—including Carl Yaeger in his article on terrorist "Megadeath Weapons" in this issue—Jenkins believes that detonating a nuclear bomb would generally be counter-productive to terrorist interests. "Simply killing a lot of people is not an objective of terrorism," he says. "Terrorists could do more now, yet they don't. Why? Beyond the technical constraints, there may be self-imposed constraints that derive from moral considerations or political calculations. The terrorists' enemy is the government, not the people. Also, terrorists pretend to be governments, and wanton murder might imperil the image."

Perhaps Jenkins is right. But other authorities fear he isn't, including officials of our own government who have urged establishment of a terrorist crisis management group and "constitutional crisis" government (see Carl Yaeger's article in this issue).

Even Jenkins hedges a bit on his prediction that terrorists won't resort to nuclear disaster in the future: "Attitudes toward violence vary not only from group to group but also within a group. Inevitably, there would be disagreement over mass murder, which could expose the operation and the group to betrayal. Obviously, not all groups share the same operation code, and certain conditions or circumstances might erode these self-imposed constraints."

Jenkins also does not rule out "lesser terrorist acts" involving nuclear material, such as "seizure or attempted sabotage of a nuclear reactor" or "dispersal of radioactive material."

And, he says, "Although there have been isolated incidents, neither chemical nor biological warfare seems to fit the pattern of terrorist attacks. These attacks are generally intended to produce immediate dramatic effects." But he adds: "Over the long-term future—the next 10 to 15 years—my concern is that chemical weaponry will be acquired by unstable, dangerous countries and used in warfare—such as the Iran-Iraq War. If chemical warfare becomes commonplace, particularly in a region like the Middle East, we cannot dismiss its potential use by terrorists. The same is true of nuclear weapons, but probably over a longer period of time."

While statistics bear out the perception that killing large numbers of people has not been a terrorist objective in the past, Jenkins states, terrorist activity has escalated in volume and bloodshed and the number of incidents with fatalities and multiple fatalities has increased dramatically in recent years. Ten major terrorist incidents in the last 15 years have resulted in more than 1,000 dead and most of these have occurred in the last three years.

Other disturbing factors indicating that more and more violent terrorist attacks will come in the future, Jenkins points out are: "Terrorists have become technically more proficient, enabling them to operate at a higher level of violence"; "Terrorists can no longer obtain the same amount of publicity using the same (less violent) tactics they used 10 years ago"; "The religious aspect of current conflicts in the Middle East pushes terrorists toward mass murder"; and "State sponsorship has provided terrorists with the resources and technical know-how to operate at a higher, more lethal level of violence."

"On balance, it appears that incidents involving significant fatalities probably will become more common, with incidents resulting in hundreds of deaths remaining, for the foreseeable future, the outer limit of terrorist violence."

Though we are seeing government and private organizations fearing and planning for much worse in the way of future terrorism around the world, maybe Jenkins' predictions will be the worst we will see from terrorists in the years ahead. Ironically, this could be viewed as good fortune for humanity, considering the possibility of mega-casualty terrorist attacks. In any event, the future appears grim indeed regarding terrorist violence—*Jim Benson*.



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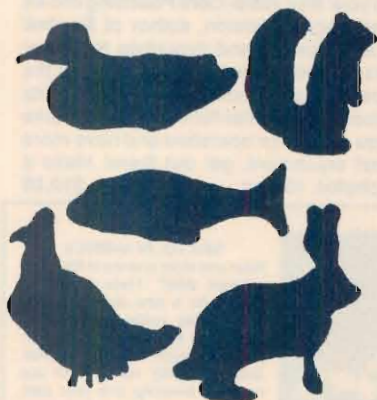
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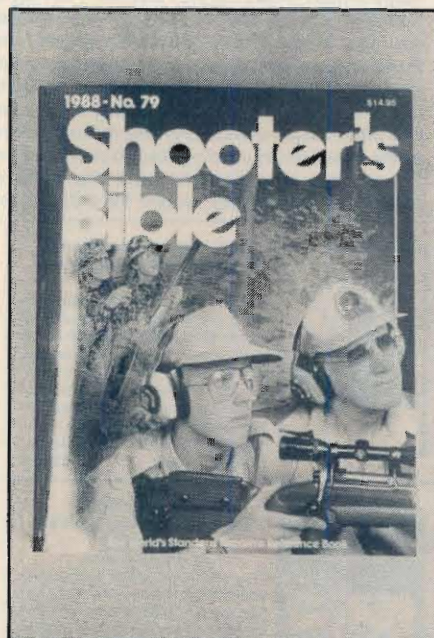
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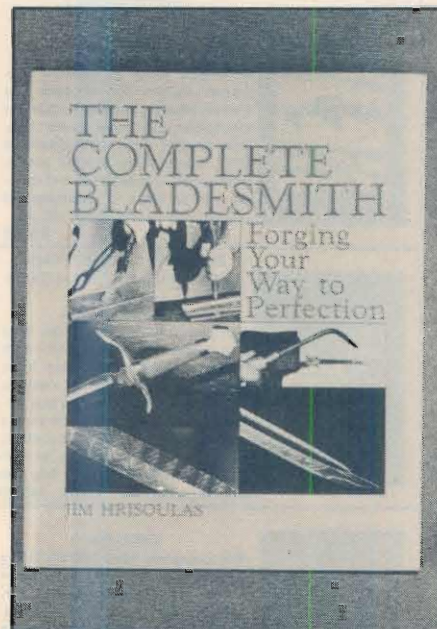
# BOOK REVIEWS



**1988 Shooter's Bible**, William S. Jarett, editor; Stoeger Publishing Company, Dept. ASG, 55 Ruta Court, South Hackensack, New Jersey 07606; 576 pages, soft-cover; \$14.95.

The all new, completely revised and updated 1988 Shooter's Bible is now available at gun stores and other retail outlets. The "World's Standard Firearm Reference Book" is a must-have reference encyclopedia for the hunter, shooter, collector and other firearm enthusiast. This year's issue, the 79th edition, is dedicated to Horace Smith and Daniel Wesson, co-founders of the famous firearm company that still bears their name. The work includes a feature article section with authoritative advice and information from experts in their fields; a catalog section of the largest and most complete manufacturers' specifications, illustrations and current retail prices in the industry; an ammunition and ballistics section with a comprehensive, established listing of useful data and specifications from major manufacturers; a reloading and gun care accessories section; reference section with hard-to-come-by information for the shooter; gunfinder index—a Shooter's Bible exclusive section selecting and comparing specifications and prices of like firearms with identification of left-hand models; and finally, caliber-finder index, to assist in locating various models of firearms by caliber. Articles include getting started in cartridge conversion, computer ballistics, hunting small game with an autoloader, an inside look at the shotgun. Specifications are given for many handguns, rifles, shotgun, paramili-

tary and blackpowder weapons, sights, scopes, mounts, ammunition, ballistics and reloading. There is also the reference section with Shooter's Bookshelf, directory of manufacturers and suppliers, gun-finder, caliberfinder and general index.



**The Complete Bladesmith: Forging Your Way to Perfection**, by Jim Hrisoulas; Paladin Press, Dept. ASG, PO Box 1307, Boulder, CO 80306; (303) 443-7250; 179 pages, hardcover; \$25 plus \$3 postage and handling.

Now you can forge your own blade and design the custom knife of your choice. Make hunting/skinning knives, utility, fighting, and art knives, or even swords—everything you need to know in this area is in this book. Jim Hrisoulas is a master bladesmith (17 years at the forge) and specializes in medieval broadswords and daggers. He is also an expert at Damascus pattern welding and includes information invaluable to anyone interested in trying their hand at this ancient art. With this complete step-by-step guide you learn to set up your own workshop, easily and inexpensively. Reviewed are tools of the trade, steels to use, fire and forging, rough grinding, heat-treating, fittings, grip making, even Japanese blades and Japanese heat-treating and polishing and more. And it's not hard. Hrisoulas claims anyone can forge a good blade—one that will "cut, and cut, and cut some more." However, don't believe this literary work is just for

(Continued on page 26)



# MAIL CALL

## EMP Confusion

In the area of electromagnetic pulse (EMP) and its effects on automobiles, your November 1986 issue article "Getaway Vehicle" stated, "... the best vehicles for this job (escape) are the 1972-76 Chevrolet Blazers, Ford Broncos and Jeeps. The main reason is that they do not have electronic ignition which may be damaged by nuclear electromagnetic pulse." However, somewhat contrasting is the March 1987 article "EMP And Your Equipment," which stated, "In order for a car to continue to operate you must choose an earlier model with points and condensers, but even that is a little uncertain, because a very near EMP strike might still fry the ignition coil." Furthermore, "The real answer is a fully mechanical diesel engine..." If the previous statement is true, why wasn't this brought out in your "Getaway Vehicle" article? You wrote that "... the vast majority of trucks (military) are diesel and would run just fine (after EMP)" in the article "EMP And Your Equipment." It seems to me that the best getaway vehicle would have to be one with a diesel engine when considering the very likely

possibility of an EMP explosion. If I'm right then anything but a diesel is useless.

Jeff White  
Jacksonville, Florida

*Some of the statements in the articles you mention might seem contradictory or confusing but they merely reflect differing views on the subject. We present material by different authors to provide ideas and stimulate discussion of different subjects. The subject of EMP involves considerable speculation, since there has never been a nuclear attack on this country with accompanying EMP effects. We did not see these articles you refer to as being necessarily contradictory, although some points made in them may seem so. They merely reflect the authors' different perspectives on the subject.*

## Amputation

In your article "Amputation" in the August 1987 issue, we are told to rinse an amputated body part in an "isotonic saline solution." Can the saline solution used to clean contact lenses be substituted? If not, how can one obtain the isotonic saline solu-

tion? What does one do with an amputee when there is no doctor available and one is not forthcoming, such as in a post-collapse scenario? Is it practical to assume a layman might be able to reattach a severed limb while consulting *Emergency War Surgery* or some such book? Or would the layman write off the amputated limb and concentrate on care of the stump?

Sandra J. Deneen  
St. Paul, Minnesota

*Todd Sanford, the author of the amputation article, which discussed first aid care of amputation victims and preservation of severed limbs for reattachment surgery, tells us that "isotonic saline solution" refers to any salt solution that is of the same salt concentration as that of fluids in the human body. He says, yes, the saline solution used to clean contact lenses can be used to cleanse amputated body parts. Reattachment surgery is highly complex, requiring great skill and training and sophisticated equipment. Without the highly skilled professionals and facilities and equipment needed, it would be impossible for reattachment. Stanford says. Obviously then, in a disaster situation where there was no hope of reattachment, the layman should concentrate on care of the severed stump. In most complete amputations, bleeding is not a serious problem. Control of what bleeding there is*

(Continued on page 28)

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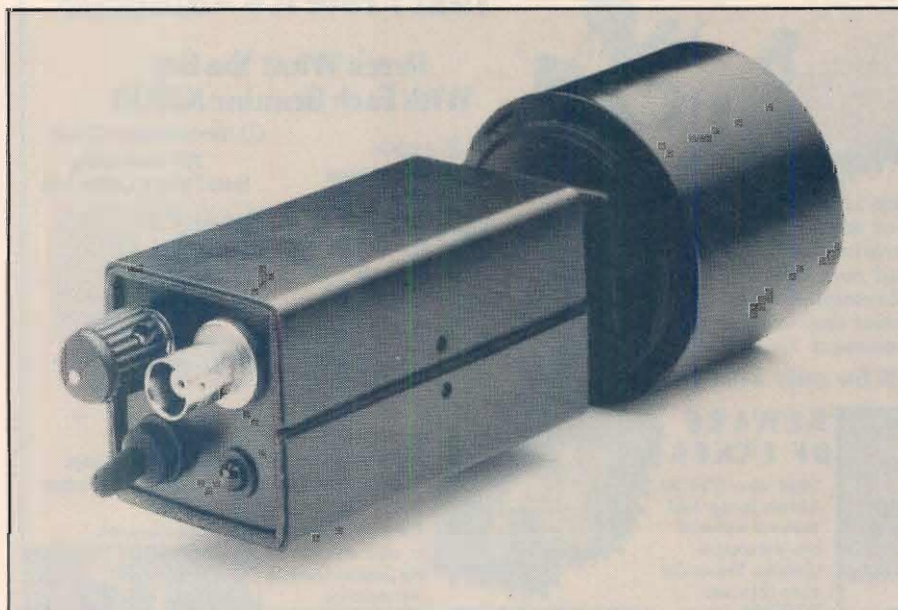
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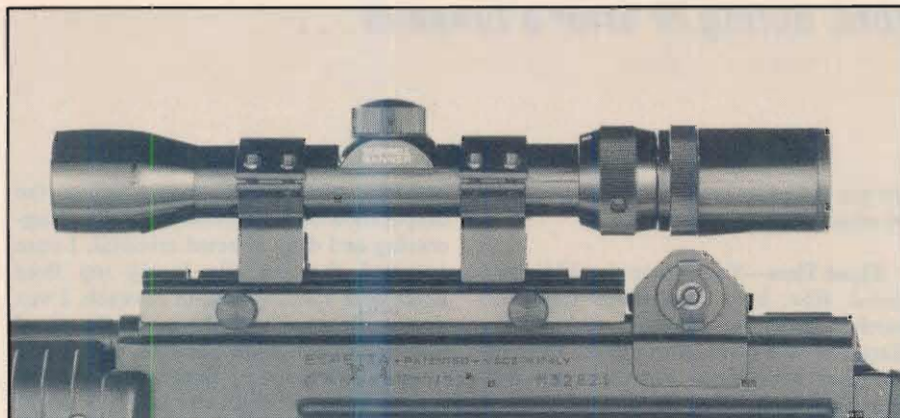
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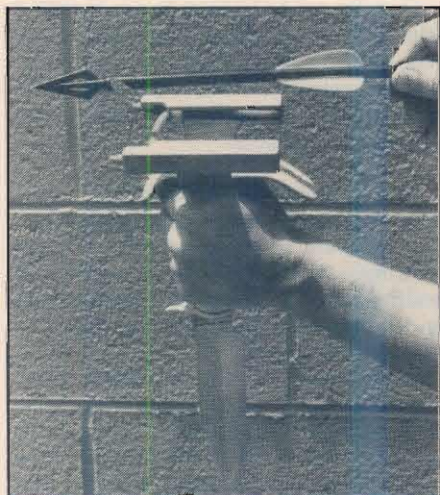
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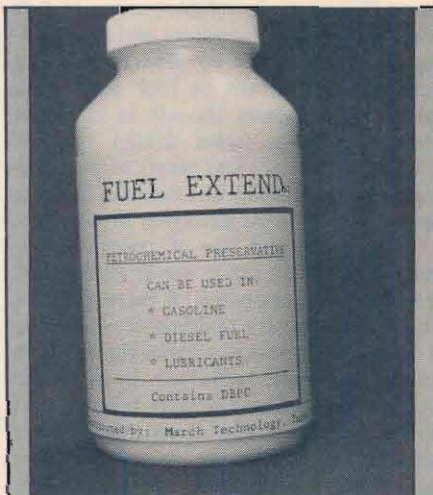
sights with the scope installed. Only \$49.95 complete with rings at dealers. Or order directly from B-Square, Dept. ASG, P.O. Box 11281, Ft. Worth, TX 76109; phone (800) 433-2909 outside Texas, in Texas call (817) 923-0964.

### Survival Knife/Bow



The serious outdoorsman should appreciate Taylor Cutlery's new Survival knife with compound bow—designed by Jim Gullette of Greer, SC. The Skaska System is a unique survival instrument. The compound bow attachment releases the arrow at a speed of 200 feet per second. The total weight of the Skaska System is less than one pound and fits compactly in a carrying case on your belt. The razor sharp 8-inch blade features a true saw on the top of the blade. The tempered seal guard consists of a standard screwdriver and a Phillips screwdriver. A survival kit is in the waterproof handle which consists of matches, fish hooks, fish line, compass, and etc. The price of the Skaska is \$79.31. For more information write Taylor Cutlery, Dept. ASG, P.O. Box 1638 Kingsport, TN 37660.

### Gasoline, Diesel Fuel Storage



FUEL EXTEND is a petrochemical preservative which significantly retards autoxidation in petroleum. If you have had difficulty in starting your lawn mower, trail bike, outboard motor or similar, infrequently used gasoline or diesel fuel engine, you will be interested in knowing the reason for this malfunction. Petroleum is subject to autoxidation, like oils in foods and the human body. When gasoline is left for a few months or more, gums are formed by the reaction of oxygen with unsaturated components of the fuel. The active ingredient in FUEL EXTEND is DBPC, which has received a low hazard rating in government health and flammability tests. FUEL EXTEND is recommended for use by those who wish to store some fuel for a "rainy day" (or the next oil embargo), or owners of generators, boats,

motor homes, farm or gardening machinery or other infrequently used equipment. DBPC is used by the U.S. government and many other countries to preserve civil and military oil reserves. For more information contact March Technology, Dept. ASG, Box 55100, Tucson, AZ 85703, or see the classified ad under the Miscellaneous section ("Store Gasoline Or Diesel Fuel . . .") in the classified ads of this issue.

### Ghillie Suit



U.S. Cavalry, a leading mail-order firm, offers a three-dimensional camouflage outfit, called a Ghillie suit, for the first time in the company's 1988 catalog. "This unusual camouflage enables its wearer to blend into the natural surroundings by giving the illusion that the suit is a bush or part of the underbrush," said Randy Acton, president of U.S. Cavalry. "The suit was inspired by English gamekeepers, called Ghillies, but works well in many different hunting or combat situations." English gamekeepers designed the original suit to help them catch poachers. Today, the suit has been modified by military special forces and snipers using modern camouflage technology to make the best Ghillie suit possible. U.S. Cavalry is offering a commercial version of the advanced military suit. The Ghillie suit consists of approximately 250 pieces of various colored camo material sewn to Velcro and hung onto a sturdy polyester mesh parka with a hood and face mask. It comes with a day carrying pack and is flame retardant. The price of the Ghillie suit is \$149.95. A U.S. Cavalry catalog is available for \$3.00 from U.S. Cavalry, Dept. ASG, 1375 North Wilson Road, Radcliff, Kentucky 40160, (502) 351-1164. ●



# Tiered Defenses: Home Defense

*Be prepared to be safe before, during or after a break-in . . .*

By J. Lincoln Thorner

**W**HAT does the acquittal of Bernhard Goetz, the subway gunman, mean to you and your ability to defend yourself and your home?

Many people's home defense plans are predicated on a collapse of civil order . . . today's city dweller often lives in conditions that make it look like that collapse has already happened. So, while you are preparing for tomorrow's unknowns, it pays to be ready for what could happen today.

First, his acquittal does *not* mean that it's open season on teenage muggers. The fact that he had to go through 2½ years of hell to get that acquittal certainly does not mean that a person should give up and become defenseless. The essential lesson to be learned is that you must be both prepared to defend yourself before an attack *and* be prepared to account for your actions afterward. Seems obvious, but few people give it much thought until after the attack, when they are traumatized and possibly being bombarded by questions from the police and the press.

Justifying self defense against a home intruder is not nearly as difficult as in the case of a possible mugging. In the Goetz case, there was a substantial amount of burden placed on the shooter to prove that there was in fact an attack going on, at all.

In home defense, the criminal intent of the intruder is much clearer, as is the threat to the family within. This gets (pardon the pun) to the heart of justifying the use of deadly force . . . the reasonable perception of a threat of physical harm to self and family.

The problem of break-ins falls largely into two categories: intrusion when you're home and intrusion while you're out. The static, passive and semi-active defenses that should be employed to protect an empty house are also the first line of defense you'd use to protect yourself when you're home.

The first thing to remember about defending your home while you're away is that booby traps are *out*! The use of deadly, active devices for property defense may seem to make sense, and may be emotionally satisfying, but they can land you in a great deal of trouble. There was a home owner who set up a shotgun booby trap in his oft-burgled garage, got the burglar, then got jailed. The principle is that if you or other members of your household are *not* in danger, there is no justification for

the use of deadly force. Don't give up, just be smart, and be *prepared*.

**Three Tiers**—Your home should be protected, first, by a three-tiered system of barrier defenses, alarms, and hiding places, or safe areas. This system will protect your belongings, when you are out, and will provide a first line of defense when you are home.

Barrier defenses are the first tier. Primarily this involves doors, windows and locks. City dwellers are facing a greater threat, but home owners are often more vulnerable. Limiting visible and physical access is the key. This is easier to do with an apartment, but not impossible with a house. It never ceases to amaze me that most Americans sleep behind a fortress of glass. If there is ground floor access to your windows, ordinary windows and glass sliding doors just won't do. There are many very effective means to lock your glass doors and windows (dowels in the door tracks, nails in holes drilled through window frame . . . and plenty of commercial devices, as well), but even the best are only as strong as the glass that they secure.

Wire glass, and one of several strong glass substitutes, set in metal frames and tracks are one approach. A more effective and, unless you are building or rebuilding a home with security considerations in mind, an easier technique is to install window gates. These scissors-pivoted steel straps slide open and closed along a pry resistant track like an accordion. They have been in commercial service, protecting glass fronted stores, for many years. Smaller units are now popular in many ground floor apartments and on many first floor residential windows.

One of the great advantages of the window gate is that it *can* be opened in the event of a fire. It is an important factor to consider when choosing barrier defenses. Steel or wrought iron grilles are unbeatable protection from intruders, but pose a serious threat to life in the event of a fire, unless they are hinged and can be opened easily from the inside. Grilles might be considered for basement windows if this is not a normal "living area" in your home. Windows should be protected if they can be accessed from adjoining apartment terraces (side or above), from porch roofs, garages, or even from your apartment roof.

That's right, from your apartment

building roof! Don't underestimate the desperation and determination of a drug-craving and drug affected criminal. I once assumed that an alley-facing top floor apartment window was out of reach. I was wrong. Because I would never dream of lowering myself from the roof, on a rope, to open a window, I figured no one else would. I was burgled twice before a neighbor's kid told me that he had seen a "junkie" get in this way. I have worked with hundreds of addicted ex-offenders and, believe me, this feat of daring is nothing compared to some of what they did to satisfy their habits.

Top floor apartment dwellers and those with terraces above or next to theirs might well consider using the same precautions appropriate to ground level dwellers.

Curtains are an important way to limit a criminal's visual access, necessary to prevent determination of the habits, belongings and presence of those that live within. Curtains that let sunlight in, but protect privacy are available.

**Doors**—Door selection is critical. A steel door, mounted on a steel frame is your best bet. It should be equipped with a fisheye wide angle viewing lens. You should always positively identify callers and chain latches or door windows are an open invitation to unwanted company.

If you must do with a wooden door, avoid the hollow, interior type. Regardless of what locks are installed, they can be easily battered apart. A solid wooden door with a sheet metal covering outside is best if a metal door is unavailable.

If the door, no matter what type, is mounted on a wooden frame, ordinary locks are insufficient protection. The door may hold, but battering will tear out the frame side of locks and hinges. When there is doubt about the strength of your door frame, a bar lock should be installed.

This type of lock is also known as a "Fox" lock, a police lock, or a buttress lock. The locking mechanism is mounted in the middle of the door, and a strong, cold rolled steel bar runs from the center of the door, inside, diagonally to a socket set in the floor. The bracing is against the floor and does not depend upon door edge, or door frame strength.

While we're on the subject of locks, I'd like to point out the burglar's favorite type. It is the in-knob button lock. That is the





The baseball bat still serves as a primitive but effective weapon in defending yourself and family at home. Firearms like this .45 Colt Government Model pistol can help establish superiority of force during a break-in.



Always positively identify callers. Fisheye lens viewers are best. Opening your door to unknown visitors is an invitation to disaster.



Peephole viewers, deadbolt locks and steel guard plates protecting lock cylinders make an effective front door barrier defense.

type that has the cylinder for the key in the middle of the outside knob and has a locking button in the middle of the inside knob. To lock it, you push the little button and pull closed the door. To open it, you slip a credit card between the frame next to the knob, pry it apart with screw driver, or for those in a hurry, simply kick it to pieces. If you have this kind of lock on anything more important than your bathroom, get rid of it! Some folks have this in addition to a good lock and use the good lock only when they're out. Not using the full potential of your barrier systems while you are home is a fundamental error that could cost you precious time to react to an intruder, and ultimately cost you your life.

A good idea is to use an in-door deadbolt lock, that is a lock that uses a solid metal bolt that cannot be slipped, in combination with a rim lock, that is, a lock that employs "L" shaped hooks that, when locked, drop into a bracket of "eyes"

mounted on the door frame. These two locks work well in combination with each other. The in-door deadbolt uses the strength of the door itself to prevent inward pressure from opening the door. The rim lock (also called a "Segal" or vertical bolt lock) prevents the door and frame from being pried apart in order to slip the deadbolt out of its socket. The rim lock will actually tend to pull the frame along if the door is pried, preventing a gap between the in-door bolt and the in-frame socket. If an in-door lock is not feasible, consider a bracket lock which has flat steel bars running either horizontally or vertically from the locking mechanism, through door and frame mounted brackets. The horizontal bracket lock has the added advantage of reinforcing both the open side and the hinge side of the door.

Both the *Complete Security Handbook* by Anthony Herbert, Lt. Col., U.S.A. (ret.) and *Home Security*, one of the Time

Life Home Repair and Improvement series are good places to start in planning your barrier defenses. I urge you to be creative, though. Each dwelling has its own unique needs and vulnerabilities. Try and think like a crook. How would you try and get in if you were *really* desperate?

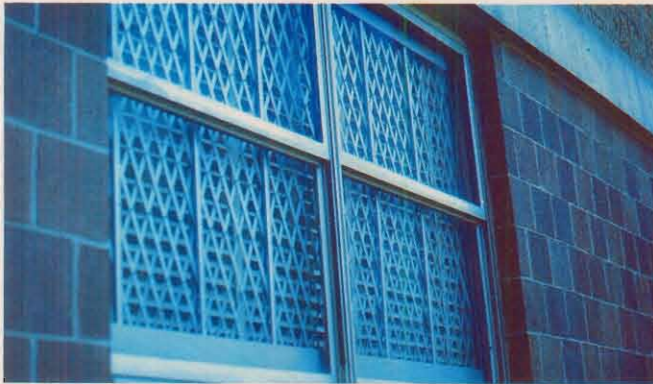
**Alarms**—Alarms can vary from cheap, simple pull-string door or window alarms to complex and expensive microprocessor directed multi-sensor central station alarms. If properly employed, even relatively simple alarms can be an extremely cost effective investment. The secret of a successful alarm system is not in the alarm, at all; it is in alerting your neighbors to what your alarm sounds like and telling them what you'd like them to do if they hear it. Especially in a city, people become extremely insular and the incidence of auto and business false alarms is high. They tend to be ignored . . . almost not heard, at all!

Most people are happy to be of assistance if asked, and especially if such help does not place them in danger. A promise of similar assistance, should they get an alarm system helps, too. You need *not* give neighbors the details of your system; what they need to know is what it sounds like when it goes off, and what they should do. Ask them to call the police and ask them to look out their window and door peephole to note the description of the intruders, their auto and auto license plates.

Let them know that you *don't* want them to investigate the alarm themselves. That kind of assistance, though commendable could get them hurt and you liable. Their prompt call to the police, though, will turn your alarm from an expensive noisemaker into an effective tool against crime. Some neighbors have made mutual defense agreements. In such cases, contingency responses to alarms will be more "active" in accordance with your prear-



## Home Defense



ABOVE — Child guard bars are fine for keeping junior from falling, but are totally unsuited for protecting against burglary.

ABOVE LEFT — Even the dizzying heights of a modern high rise won't deter a desperate drug addict from climbing to your apartment.

LEFT — Glass defenses are no defenses. Window gates offer good protection for vulnerable windows yet allow easy escape from a fire.

rangement. Do understand that such arrangements also carry obligations and liabilities.

The simplest sort of alarm is a small box siren with a pin and string. The string eyelet is put on a hook mounted on the door frame at other than eye level. If, when the door is opened an inch or two, it is not unhooked, the pin will be pulled out of the alarm box by the opening door and the siren will sound. These little wonders can sometimes still be found for less than \$5.

More sophisticated and certainly more expensive multisensor systems are available. If installed by a commercial alarm company expect to pay plenty. These systems start in the \$500 to \$1,500 range and go up according to size, complexity and functions of the system. If you are willing to put the work in yourself, system components and instructions are available from such sources as Heathkit and Radio Shack. Their systems are good and a great deal less expensive. You can usually start off in the \$50 to \$250 range and add to the system as your needs and pocketbook allow. Installing your own system has several advantages. You (and only you) will be more intimately aware of its capabilities and limitations. You will be more able to add to and repair it.

A good system should have a number of sensors. These may include magnetic microswitches on windows and doors that detect them being opened, window foil or suction cup sensors that detect breaking

glass, floor pressure pads near doors or especially important areas, and electric eye sensors that are triggered by a person walking through and breaking a beam of light. This last type is available with infrared light emitters and detectors which make them harder for intruders to spot. Usually a mix of several types of sensors is most effective. It is interesting to note that a variety of other purpose sensors are on the market that can trigger your alarm to warn you of other problems, such as fires, smoke, flooded basements and electric power outages. These are particularly easy to add if you installed your system and can work with it.

A winner for ease of installment is the motion detector alarm. The most common variety emits ultrasonic sound, and like sonar, detects variations in the pattern of the returning sound. To install, you just plug it in the room or area you want to protect. That's about it! It needs no external sensors. I've seen them disguised as books. Just put it on a shelf with some real books and you're all set. Some of the drawbacks of this type of alarm are that it will not detect motion outside of its range (usually the room it is installed in) and it can be triggered by the movement of household pets and has been known to false alarm due to air currents. As with pressure pads and many electric eye sensors, the motion detector will only trigger once the intruder is inside.

Most alarm systems can be disabled by

the homeowner either by an external key or pushbutton switch, or an internal switch used during a built-in time delay, after the legitimate dwellers have entered. The trick, if you want to protect your safety, as well as that of your property, is to turn the system back on after you enter. You really don't want the first warning you have of intruders to be waking up to see a group of strange faces looking down at you from around your bed. This, by the way, actually happened to a friend of mine. Fortunately for him and his family, his nocturnal visitors were only interested in his belongings and he and his family were unharmed.

**Hiding Valuables**—Hiding places fall into two major categories: the strong and the concealed. Concealment can be as simple as the purloined letter method. This is hiding something valuable among others similar looking but more common. Put your diamonds in a bowl of obvious costume jewelry. If I ever get any diamonds, I'll have to consider this! Seriously, I really don't think that this is a very good idea. For a hiding place to be effective, it has to be very clever. Sugar bowls, freezers, inside books and the like are out!

The best idea for a cubbyhole for your valuable is a combination of strength and concealment. An in-floor safe, secured by iron rods set in concrete and covered by a section of flooring is great, if you have the sort of home where this is practical. In-wall safes are sometimes more practical, but a



bit less secure. A good, low budget alternative is to say to heck with secrecy and get yourself one of those massive old fashioned office safes. Regardless of age, they work well and can be obtained second hand. Once in place, remove or disable the wheels, or secure it in place with heavy case hardened steel chain so that burglars can't simply roll it out of your place and open it elsewhere at their leisure.

An interesting concept is the "safe room." If you have a house and have, or consider getting a basement fallout shelter, a steel door and good locks make it double purpose: shelter and saferoom. This makes it a safe place to put people as well as property. If no basement shelter is available, an interior room fitted with exterior type door and locks can be made to do nicely. The safe room should have an independent alarm system, and if it is to be considered a viable retreat for the family, an extension telephone and a back up portable CB or Ham 2-meter transceiver with which to summon help.

**Night Burglar**—At one time there were a number of states in which night burglary was a capital crime. It is a break-in in which the burglar can reasonably assume that the folks in his target residence are home and vulnerable, as opposed to most burglars who strike during the day and are interested only in theft, not in harming the inhabitants. This gets to the meat of the problem: insuring your personal survival in the event of a break-in.

The first thing is to insure that your three tiered defenses are in place and operative when you're home. The barrier defenses and alarms may prevent entry or scare off the intruder. If not, they will give you the time and the advanced warning that you and your family need to adequately deal with the attacker. It is important to note that once he has entered your home by breaking in while you are home he ceases to be merely a thief and should be considered an attacker.

Contingency plans must be made and all members of your family should be thoroughly familiar with them and with the actions that each of them must take. For your plans to be realistic, your alarm system must be active.

Once warned, you must have immediate access to sufficient weaponry to secure absolute local superiority of force. This means, don't depend on the hunting rifle you've got locked up in the basement if you are sleeping upstairs in the bedroom. Each plan should contain provision for the designation of a weapons user (depending on who is home, and who knows how to use the weapons available) and a plan for the other members of the household to take shelter. This can be as simple as falling to the floor, or retreating to an interior or

"safe room." The point of all this is to obtain a clear field of fire, or a killing zone and making sure your loved ones are not in it, and that your family cannot be used as a shield or hostages by intruders.

A safe room with wire and wireless communications is a particularly good idea if because of superior numbers or weaponry you are unable to obtain absolute local predominance of force. It is a good idea to have somewhere to retreat where you can summon help. If it came to pass, however, that you do need to defend your home and family with deadly force, you might not want to mention the existence of a possible safe retreat. Anything that might be seen as reducing the direct danger to you could be construed by law enforcement authorities as a reduction of the justification for you using deadly force . . . more about this later.

**Weapons**—The selection of home defense weapons is not absolute; your choice depends a lot on the conditions in which you live and upon who will be using them and, of course, what you can afford. Non-firearm weapons should not be dismissed from consideration. Arrows and crossbow bolts were killing people long before anyone ever thought of guns. A Louisville Slugger under the bed is still a kind of nice idea, and I've never heard of a kid accidentally getting shot with one, and you can use 'em for the occasional baseball game, as well. Seriously, though, if this is all you can afford it is worth having.

For the realistic achievement of absolute local superiority of force some kind of firearm is usually considered necessary. The choice of weapons for home defense is the source of endless debate; everyone has their favorite choice. There are some considerations that should be taken when making this choice, that I'd like to suggest. The factors you are looking for are stopping power (you want to knock him down now, not just have him drop dead later), selectivity (a hand grenade will stop him, but it is not selective enough not to stop everyone else in the room, as well) and utility (it should not be too awkward or difficult to prepare to use). Where you live and who is going to use the weapon will have a lot to do with judging selectivity and utility. In general, two popular choices are shotguns and heavy caliber handguns.

In rural areas magnum handguns, 00 buckshot, solid shot and even a rifle (a bit awkward for indoor use) may be good choices if they can be used without danger to others in your home. In the city, neighbors are always a consideration. A good choice is a relatively short barreled shotgun loaded with birdshot and within reach. It has, at short range, tremendous stopping power, yet is less likely to go through three walls and kill your next door neighbor, as

well!

If there are young children in the house, a handgun in a lockbox is a great deal safer. There are pushbutton lockboxes that can be opened easily in the dark on the market. Magnums may have too much penetration potential to be safely used for self defense. A good alternative is the .45 ACP. A heavy, subsonic, proven man-stopper it is less likely to go through an attacker and hit your neighbor. Another possibility is the .38 Special, or a .357 revolver with .38 Special wadcutter loaded.

A nice (nice and nasty, that is) round to consider in several calibers available is the one that the projectile falls apart into discs and bearings upon impact. It tends not to go through walls, but has proven devastating on human targets. When choosing a weapon, make sure it is one that your wife, for instance, is able to use . . . or provide her an alternative, make sure it will be effective, and make sure that it will not get you into more trouble after you use it than you were in before you used it, by killing your neighbors. I'm sure you have your preferences, but do consider preparing for afterward, while you are preparing your defense. P.S.—a flashlight is handy to have near your weapon!

**After Action**—If you don't want the nightmare to begin after you have defended your home and family it is essential to prepare for the aftermath before you are actually under the gun.

Sure, you have a right to defend yourself; just make sure you don't have to defend yourself against an eager prosecutor or the press. If the danger is over, make sure the first person you call is your lawyer. Yeah, sad as it sounds, if you are actually out of danger call your lawyer first and listen to his advice about what to discuss with the police. He may advise you to discuss your experience fully with the police, but he may advise you to wait until he has discussed the case with you and is present for your questioning. If he tells you to be quiet, don't discuss it, even with your buddy on the force. All kinds of conversations, casual or not, legally or not, have been used against people. I don't mean any disrespect to the men and women of the criminal justice system; just don't put yourself in a position that will force some of them to be on the opposite side of the fence from you!

After you have defended yourself get your family together and discuss what has happened so that by the time the police arrive you will not inadvertently contradict each other. If you are alone, run through the episode in your mind so that you have your story straight. It is important that the authorities are clear that you were defend-

(Continued on page 55)



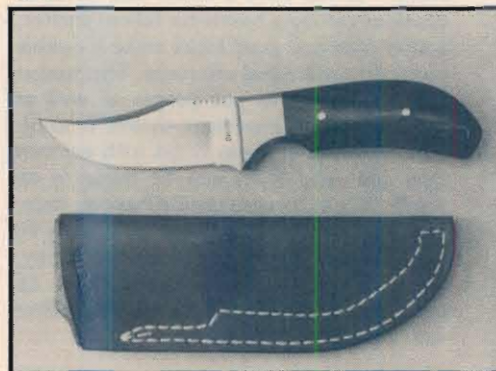
## Gunmaker, Now Knifemaker:



The small double-edged boot knife retails for \$77.50.



Medium clip-blade micarta handle lockback. Retail price is \$59.95. Blade length is 2 3/4 inches.



Large Rosewood Hunter (long) has a blade of 3 7/8 inches and sells for \$66.95 retail.

# Beretta Knives

*In the same tradition of quality and excellence as the firearms . . .*

### Staff Report

**P** BERETTA is a name long known for quality firearms the world over. Now Beretta is introducing a knife line "... in the same tradition of quality and excellence that has defined Beretta products for nearly five centuries," according to company literature.

There are stainless steel and walnut-handled collectors knives and rosewood-inlay lockback knives, micarta-handled lockback utility knives, fixed-blade skinning knives, double-edged boot knives and even a money clip knife. Each knife comes with a sheath.

The stainless steel collectors knives feature 440-C stainless steel lockback design, engraved with the Beretta logo and the traditional P. Beretta signature and come in small (blade length 1 3/4 inches), medium (blade length 2 1/4 inches) and large (blade 2 3/4 inches) sizes. The walnut-handled collectors knives have most of

the same features but have slightly larger blades in each size.

The rosewood-inlay folding knives are made with the same steel. The design replicates Beretta shotgun receivers. They are complemented with a forward lock for easy closing and feature drop point blades. These come in small, medium and large sizes with blades 1 3/4-, 2 1/4- and 2 5/8-inch long blades respectively. Another version of these knives has mostly stainless steel handles with less rosewood inlay.

The micarta-handled folding lockbacks are ideal for outdoorspeople and sportsmen. Specially designed to resist splitting, cracking and changes in humidity, these knife handles are also marked in the distinctive Beretta logo and come in two sizes, each in either drop point or clip point blade ranging in size from blades of 2 3/4 inches to 3 7/8 inches.

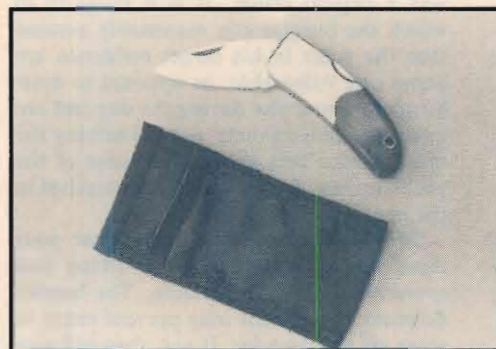
The fixed-blade skinning knives are for

hunters. There are two models, well balanced and marked with thumb and forefinger rests for steady handling. Clip blades are 440C stainless and handles are weather-resistant, kiln-dried rosewood. A sturdy leather sheath complements these blades. Blade lengths are 3 7/8 and 3 5/16 inches.

Beretta's classic double-edged boot knives come with a handsome display case. These are polished to a mirror finish and have ebony handles. Two sizes: small with a blade length of 3 5/8 inches; and large with 5-inch blade. Each knife comes with its own double-stitched belt/boot sheath.

The money clip features a pen blade and nail file with a handle inlaid with rosewood and the P. Beretta logo.

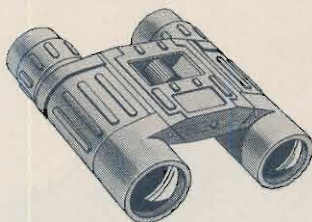
For more information or ordering these knives, contact Beretta, U.S.A. Corp., Dept. ASG, 17601 Beretta Drive, Accokeek, MD 20607; (301) 283-2191. ●



Medium rosewood folding knife with drop point blade 2 1/4 inches long. Sells for \$53.95.



Original Mil-Spec 100% Virgin Wool with leather sweat band. Fully lined with stiffener for flash. The very finest made. Specify: (S) 7, (M) 7 1/4, (L) 7 1/2, XL 7 3/4. Colors: S.F. Green (G), Ranger Black (S), Blue (B), Maroon (M), Camo (C).  
#0113( ) **\$9.95**



Black rubber armored for the sportsman, hunter. Compact and lightweight, only 10.5 oz. 368 ft. field of view at 1000 yds. Center focus. Coated optics. Exit pupil 2.6mm. 21mm objective lens. Comes with case and lens covers.

**\$49.95**



Eight-shot .22-caliber revolver or 7-shot auto fires tear gas cartridges or blanks as fast as you can pull the trigger. Heavy-duty metal construction with quick, easy ejection. Checkered grips. Comes with a belt holster and a supply of tear gas and blanks.

#260110	Blue	\$19.95
#260120	Chrome	\$24.95
<b>.22 Caliber Tear Gas Automatic</b>		
#260510	Blue	\$21.95
#260520	Chrome	\$26.95



Smallest, lightest stun gun available. Weighs only a few ounces but packs a 35,000 volt bite that will stop any attacker. Uses 9 volt alkaline battery.

#310802	Minnie Zapper	\$59.95
#310801	Battery & Charger	\$16.95



Extremely sensitive pointable, electronic listening device amplifies and feeds all available sounds through stereo headphones (included). Automatic shut-off circuit measures incoming signal and protects you from harmful high volume noise. You can hear a whisper at 100 yds., a car door shutting at 5 blocks, your dog hot on a trail 2 miles away. Uses 9-volt battery. **Optional booster** increases the receiving surface area 37 times, making it more directional and powerful. Snaps on and off

<b>The Bionic Ear</b>		
#310300	Receiver & Headset	<b>\$79.95</b>
#310301	Bionic Booster	<b>\$34.95</b>



Sizes: S, M, L, XL.  
Available in O.D.  
Green, Woodland,  
Tigerstripe, and Black.  
Specify size & color.

#0107( ) O	\$49.95
#0107A0( ) M-65 Cold	
Weather Liner	\$19.95



#176201	BMF with Serrated Edge	<b>\$129.95</b>
#176202	BMF w/o Serrated Edge	<b>\$129.95</b>
#176203	LMF with Serrated Edge	<b>\$99.95</b>
#176204	LMF w/o Serrated Edge	<b>\$99.95</b>

Look and feel like the real thing but are completely harmless. Full weight with detachable lever and pin. 3 Styles - Pineapple WW II (0), Egg Vietnam (1) or Baseball Current (2) #1721G( ) \$9.95 ea.



Drives a wire dart thru 1/2" plywood! Hard-hitting accuracy up to 50 yards and more. Velocity exceeds 720 fps. Uses .40 caliber darts. Comes with 10 darts.

#461104	MX5 Mega-Dart Pistol	<b>\$49.95</b>
#461105	Extra Power Band	<b>\$4.95</b>
#461102	Wire Darts 24/pkg	<b>\$4.95</b>
#461107	Hunting Darts 20/pkg.	<b>\$4.95</b>
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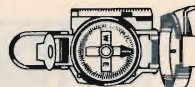
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## Springfield Armory:



# M1A Rifle

*Improved civilian semiauto version of the military M14 . . .*

By Jim Benson

**C**ALIBER 7.62mm NATO, known in civilian circles as the .308 Winchester round. The name is synonymous with long-range accuracy and penetration. And while the military has gone to the 5.56mm NATO (.223 Remington) round and the M16 rifle as the standard infantry weapon, the 7.62mm NATO round and the M14 rifle that fires it remain in use by the military.

There is good reason for this. Recently while watching a television news program about the U.S. Navy's escorting of oil tankers in the Persian Gulf, I noticed film footage of Navy personnel on the bow of a Navy ship with what appeared to be M14 rifles and binoculars looking for floating mines. It seems logical that the M14 would be a more suitable rifle for shooting at mines in attempting to blow them up than would be the M16 rifle.

The M14 rifle, an improvement of the former standard U.S. infantry weapon, the M1 Grand rifle, was adopted for use by the U.S. Army in the 1950s but only a little

more than a million of the rifles were produced before production was terminated in 1963 and the military later switched to the M16 rifle as its standard infantry weapon.

The prevailing school of thought was that the smaller, lighter and therefore easier to supply and carry 5.56mm NATO round was the more desirable infantry round with its intended primary role being used in randomly aimed, suppressing fire against the enemy infantry targets.



In fairly quick firing from 500 yards we were able to make about 15 hits on this silhouette target taped to a hot water heater tank. Every hit made a large exit hole on the other side of the tank. Afterward, a Mini-14 rifle was fired at the same tank from about 25 feet. While numerous hits were made on the tank, not one of the .223 rounds exited the other side.





Felt recoil was relatively mild.

While the M14 rifles were originally made to fire in both semiautomatic and full-automatic modes, it was found that troops in the field tended to use their rifles in the full-automatic mode and thus use up a great deal of the heavier and larger 7.62 x 51mm NATO cartridges without good effect. Consequently, most of the M14s issued to combat troops had their selector levers locked in the semiautomatic mode.

Nevertheless, there was no question that the 7.62mm round has far superior long-range accuracy and armor penetration compared with the lighter and smaller 5.56mm round. Hence, the military's recent efforts to improve the long-range and anti-armor capabilities of the 5.56mm round by changing bullet design and weight and design of the new M16A2 rifles being issued to the military.

Springfield Armory, the civilian company which has taken the name and some other aspects of the former government armory by that name which closed in the 1960s, has been manufacturing its own version of the military M14 rifle since 1974 when it began operations.

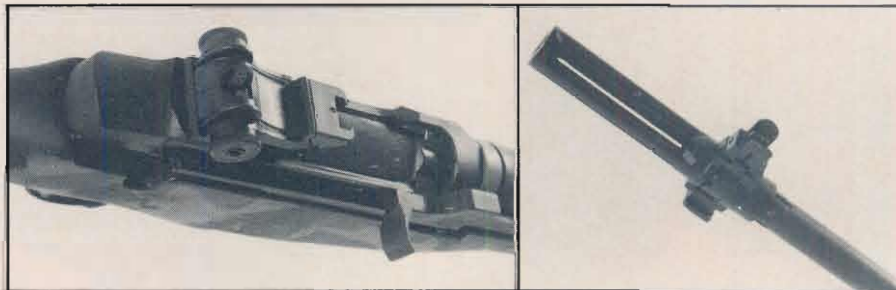
Since the government would not allow the civilian Springfield Armory to call its rifle the M14, the rifle was named the M1A, but it is, except for its semiautomatic-only firing operation, an improved military quality copy of the M14. Original U.S. government contractor's tooling is utilized in the manufacture of the M1A receiver. Springfield Armory has incorporated several dimensional improvements to develop an even stronger receiver than the GI original while complying with all material and hardness specifications

required in the making of the GI M14 receiver. Springfield Armory offers a variety of accessories for the M1A, including several different types of stocks, slings, carrying cases, bipods and scope mounts.

Springfield Armory has donated one of these fine rifles with a camouflage fiberglass stock for the top prize in *American Survival Guide's* 1987 Giveaway No. 2 (see pages 62, 63 of this issue). This rifle will be given away along with bayonet, carrying case and B-Square scope mount, in a drawing to be held this December.

As part of the agreement with Springfield for donation of the weapon, we were to take this rifle out and test fire it. Since this is a rifle intended for longer-range shooting, we decided to take it out into the Southern California desert where we wouldn't be bothered and where we would have the range available and do some 500-yard shooting.

**The Tryout**—Accordingly, we purchased about 160 rounds of various types of 7.62mm ammunition, gathered our



ABOVE — Rear sight is an aperture click adjustable for windage and elevation. Front sight is a blade with protective wings.



ABOVE — Safety is the M1 type.

LEFT — Under the hinged metal buttplate is a compartment for storing cleaning gear.





LEFT — Ammunition used in test firing the M1A.

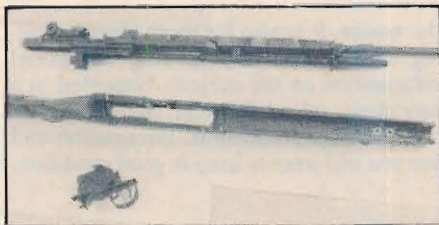
BELOW — Test firing consisted of making 500-yard shots at a silhouette target taped to a hot water heater tank.



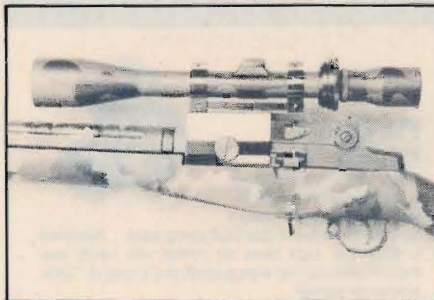
A Hoppe's Expert's Bench Rest was used in firing for accuracy.



## M1A Rifle



ABOVE — The M1A partially field stripped.



RIGHT — A B-Square scope mount will be given away with the rifle.

### Springfield Armory M1A Rifle with Camouflage Fiberglass Stock: Tech Specs

Weight with empty 20-rd. magazine .....	9½ pounds
Length, overall .....	44½ inches
Barrel length .....	25 inches
Action/operation .....	semiautomatic, gas
Sights .....	front blade w/protective wings; rear aperture adjustable for windage, elevation
Sight radius .....	27 inches
Magazine capacity .....	20 rounds
Caliber .....	7.62 x 51mm
Safety .....	M1 type blade in trigger guard
Price, suggested retail .....	about \$800
Manufacturer/distributor .....	Springfield Armory, Dept. ASG, 420 West Main St., Geneseo, IL 61254 Phone (309) 944-5631

shooting gear together, borrowed a pickup truck and drove about 120 miles out into the desert to a secluded valley early one hot day last August. Along with our shooting gear we hauled a discarded hot water heater tank which we wanted to use as a target backing.

After making our way along little used dirt trails to our shooting area, we drove to the target sight—the base of a small mountainside—and stood up the water tank and taped a large silhouette target to it. We then paced off what we determined to be 500 yards, drove the truck there and set up our gear, using the hood of the pickup as a shooting base. We employed a Hoppe's Expert's Bench Rest for a rifle rest. A Weatherby spotting scope and two pairs of binoculars were used to help us zero the rifle's iron sights (we did not use a scope in this testing). As it turned out, the target was too far away to distinctly make out hits on the target but we were able to see flying dirt from our shots around the target in zeroing the rifle.

Before we settled down to bench rest shooting at the target, we emptied a couple of 20-round magazines in random firing to get the feel of this weapon and take some

(Continued on page 51)

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## PIX MODEL 13

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## PIX-QUICK MODEL A

These high quality picks feature new lighter non-breakable plastic color coded handles. Picks are of .022 blue spring steel... hardened to perfection. Eight piece set comes with handy see-through case with two extra pockets and a copy of "Lockpicking Simplified." Model A \$19.95



## PIX-QUICK MODEL B

Same color coded set as Model A. Only with deluxe 13 pieces. Price includes tension wrench and book. Model B \$27.95

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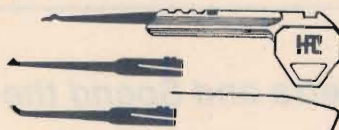
## KEY RING PICK SET

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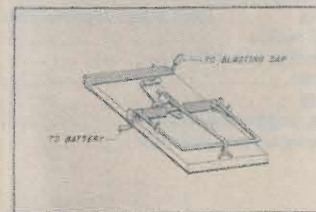
163 E. Imperial Hwy., Dept. 32-11, La Habra, California 90631 (714) 526-2504

## Book Reviews

(Continued from page 12)

the novice, it is also for those already forging blades who are seeking additional information on the subject. Presented in a very clean, school-like text, the book is one that provides professional information and one you will want to keep in good condition.

## Improvised Sabotage Devices



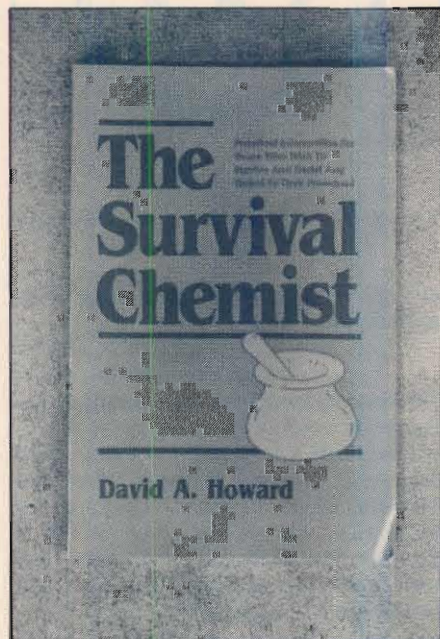
**Improvised Sabotage Devices; Butokukai,** PO Box 430, Dept. SGR, Cornville, AZ 86325; (602) 634-6280; 76 pages, softcover; \$12 plus \$2 shipping and handling.

As a reference book, this is a comprehensive study of improvised sabotage devices made from, in most cases, common household items. It illustrates how to transform the crudest equipment into some of the most effective devices available. The purpose of focusing on devices made from common materials has several reasons. First, since shelf items will not always be available for certain operations for security or logistic reasons, the operator will have to rely on materials that can be bought in a general store, found in a junk pile, or obtained from military stocks. Second, many of the ingredients and materials used in manufacturing homemade items are so commonplace or harmless they can be carried without arousing suspicion. Therefore, the completed device is often more easily concealed or camouflaged. Finally, the field expedient item can be tailored for the intended target, which presents an advantage over the standard item in flexibility and versatility. The devices and techniques chosen were those that have a proven track record, are practical, versatile, and relatively easy to manufacture. The manual is designed to aid an instructor who already has a working knowledge of



## Book Reviews

the subject in the training of action personnel. It also serves as a guide to individuals who have prior training in these techniques but need a refresher course.



**The Survival Chemist: Practical Information for Those who Wish to Survive and Resist any Threat to Their Freedom**, by David A. Howard; J. Flores Publications, Dept. ASG, PO Box 14, Rosemead, CA 91770; (818) 287-2195; 64 pages, softcover, \$7.

"Warning Notice: The construction or possession of many of these devices and compounds would be in violation of various federal, state and local laws. Severe penalties are prescribed for violators of these laws! In addition, they are dangerous to make or handle." So begins *The Survival Chemist*. The warning sparked our curiosity. Skimming the Table of Contents, it was easy to discover where that warning was applicable. It wouldn't be the chapter on shelter or the one on food and water. Radiation Protection? Unlikely. The Alcohol and Drugs sections? Well, maybe. But, Explosives? Yes, this is it. Backed by another warning label, it proceeds to instruct on the fabrication of dynamite, blasting powder, percussion powder, and fuses. For such lethal devices, the instructions and list of ingredients are both simple and short. Certainly, explosives-making instructions do not dominate this book, consisting of only 3½ pages. Other chapters address such issues as water purification, survival foods, brewing your own beer and moonshine liquor, protecting against radiation, the use of drugs and

(Continued on page 30)

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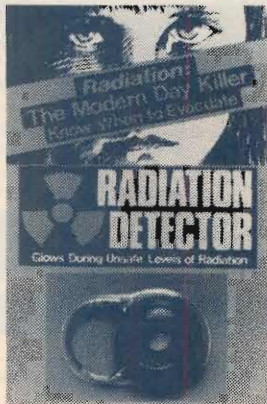
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## Mail Call

(Continued from page 13)

and keeping the stump clean with sterile dressings can allow time for the stump to "heal over" with a skin layer and the victim can survive. The body, Stanford says, has the ability to form a skin layer over a stump. If a skilled medical practitioner were available, the stump could be treated more effectively to help it heal faster, such as cutting away bone and muscle tissue, tying off major arteries and veins and closing the wound area with skin flaps, but such treatment should not be attempted by a layman. Stopping bleeding and keeping the wound clean to avoid infection are the main areas of treatment which the layman should concentrate on, according to Stanford.

### Rescue Tool

I am writing to ask your help or that of your readers in finding a source from which I can purchase another Survival and Rescue Tool. I have included a drawing of this tool, which I used to own and which was stolen from me along with my survival bag. If you or your readers could help me find a source to purchase the knife from, I would greatly appreciate it. It is a fine tool



Rescue Tool

and has served me well in both the military and civilian life.

Ernst H. Irmiger  
Lexington, Massachusetts

We have inquired with our advertisers and consulted other sources but no one we've checked with knows about this tool. As far as we can tell, the company which produced it, Moore Supply Company of Salt Lake City, has moved or gone out of business. Are there any readers out there who know where another one of these tools can be purchased from? ●

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## Book Reviews

(Continued from page 27)

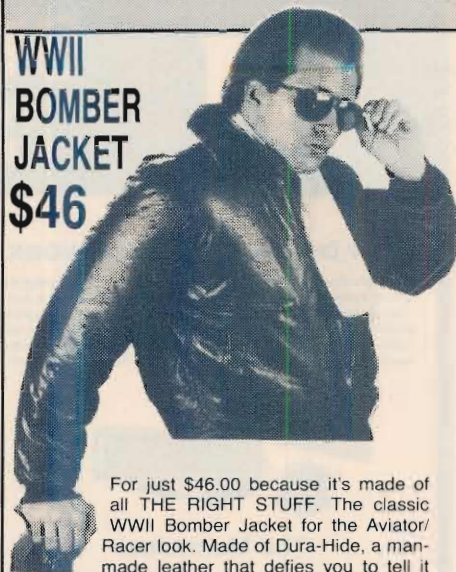
precious metals testing. Included are special drawings and tables which are provided to simplify all the projects described.



**Handbook of Bullet Swaging No. 7**, by David R. Corbin; Corbin Manufacturing & Supply, Inc., Dept. ASG, P.O. Box 2659, White City, OR 97503; (503) 826-5211; 200 pages, softcover; \$4 plus \$1 shipping and handling.

As president of Corbin Manufacturing, David Corbin has gathered his knowledge of bullet swaging and has put it in book form. While the activity is simple in principle, bullet swaging is extensive and intricate. Corbin writes, "It is so simple that one sentence describes the process. Yet, it is so powerful that more than seven books are in print today . . . Technically, bullet swaging is the manufacture of bullets using high pressure to cold-flow metals at room temperature, inside a precision die and punch set." But despite the relatively simple description, there are several methods used to achieve the same end, along with possessing the skill of handling precision work. The book is filled with black-and-white illustrations to aid in making simple and exotic bullet designs at home. Included are descriptions of how to make shot-filled, fragmenting defense bullets, heavy copper, brass or steel jackets and big game-partitioned bullets and shotgun slugs. Several methods are covered, including those which do not require the use of a press. The Corbin Mity Mite bronze-alloy press, the new Mega Mite machined-steel reloading press, and the Corbin Hydro-press (programmable 1.5 HP press) are discussed. Corbin's handbook has a wealth of useful information for those who want to make their own ammunition. ●

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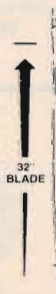


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Your child is never too young to begin learning the dangers they may be exposed to. Open conversations and good rapport with your child is the first step in keeping them safe.

## Child Guidance:

# Back To School Safety

*Steps to take to help protect your loved ones . . .*

By Rhonda Davidson

**L**ITTLE Johnny kisses mom and dad goodbye and is off to school. Ten minutes and a stranger later, Little Johnny has walked that route the last time.

Young Suzy befriends an elderly neighbor because he bakes her breads and cookies. The exchange of molestation for a gingerbread house could devastate the life of a child.

As tragic as it is, the above reflects two common crimes against children.

Now that your children are returning to school it might be helpful for you to consider what steps you can take to help keep them safe from strangers and drugs, among other dangers they face while

growing up.

The purpose of this article is to present three prevailing dangers facing contemporary American families, focus on preventive measures and provide assistance in dealing with them if such a misfortune occurs.

The minute your children step out the front door, they are at risk of never returning. The number of abductions each year is staggering and the damage to children and adults alike is great. About 50,000 children are abducted annually.

But the number gets larger when considering the amount of abductions that are done by noncustodial parents. In fact,

"child stealing" affects at least 150,000 children each year.

Spotting an abductor or molester on sight is not easy. A parent can take precautions to reduce the chance of such a crime occurring. An abductor or molester could be anyone—even a relative. The damage done to a young life can be costly. Such crimes against children can leave a child with many emotional disturbances. Molestation, depending on the degree, could evoke fear, confusion, guilt, anxiety, a sense of rejection, distrust of adults, withdrawal, problems at school, running away, nightmares and depression.

As parents, time must be taken to review





It is important that your child learn to make emergency calls. A chart as the one in this picture is of great assistance to children.

and implement guidelines that will protect the family unit. Following are suggestions provided by *The Child Safety Program Handbook*. They are meant to be applied for the prevention of both molestation and abduction.

It is paramount that you encourage open conversation with your child. Stress that you are there to discuss any problem or question the child may have. Remind them that no question or problem is a stupid or unimportant one.

Know where your child is at all times, whom he or she is with and what they are doing.

Let them know when and by whom they may be touched in a personal or intimate manner.

Tell them that adults especially should never have them keep a secret. Remind the child that no one can hurt *mommy* and *daddy*, to dispel any fear of threats made by the molester in order to keep the child silent.

Teach children that they have the right to say "NO" under certain conditions that impose danger.

Go further than just instructing the child to never approach a stranger or strange car. Let them know that you would never send a stranger to pick them up at school or wherever they might be.

Encourage your child to walk and play with other children, and to refrain from playing in vacant or deserted areas.

Teach your child their full name, complete address, phone number; your full name, office address and phone number.

Demonstrate how to make long distance phone calls by dialing direct, operator assistance and 911.

Instruct them to not give information over the phone, especially their name, address, or that they are home alone. In

fact, it might be best that you don't allow them to answer the phone at all when left unattended except when you call at a pre-arranged time.

Leave a number where they can reach you or a trusted adult.

If a stranger is trying to deliver a package, instruct your child to tell that person to leave the package at the door.

Since shopping areas breed abductors, make sure your child stays with you at all times while shopping. If, however, you do get separated, tell the child not to look for you but to go to the nearest checkout and ask the person at the register for help.

Share with the child certain houses you feel uncomfortable with them being around. In this respect, teach them not to enter a home without your prior permission.

Since screaming comes naturally for children, this will be an easy lesson for them. Loud noise usually discourages abductors and molesters. Tell them to scream when they fear danger. If someone grabs them or attempts to get them in their car, they should scream as loud as possible and then seek safety.

If the child is being followed by a stranger, tell them to never hide in a bush but to run to other people and to light.

Consider the use of code words so that your child will know that you have given authorization. For instance, a neighbor picking up the child at school.

Instruct your child's school to inform you immediately upon your child's absence.

Such guidelines require interaction between you and your child. They will only succeed if you stress the importance that they are followed. There is more, though, that as a responsible parent you must do to reduce the risk of such crimes happening to your family. They include:

#### Toll Free Numbers For Assistance With Drug-Related Issues.

1-800-554-KIDS, The National Federation of Parents for Drug-Free Youth (NFP).

1-800-241-9746, Parents' Resource Institute for Drug Education (PRIDE) Information Line.

1-800-638-2045, National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA), U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

1-800-662-HELP, NIDA Hotline (see above).

1-800-COCAINE, Cocaine Hotline.

Don't allow your child to go to a public restroom alone.

Do not leave a child alone in the car.

Refrain from putting your child's name—first or last—on hats, jackets, bikes, etc. Since children respond to the use of their name, a person who has that knowledge may not be viewed as a stranger.

Know your child's friends. Learn where they live. It may even be wise to exchange telephone numbers.

Practice safety procedures both on the way to school and en route to friends. Go over the rules of the road since abductors and molesters are not the only obstacles out there.

Be alert to a teenager or adult who is paying an undue amount of attention to your child.

If a stranger wants to take a child's picture, the child needs to inform his/her parent or teacher immediately.

Keep current medical and dental records on your child, in addition to a recent photograph (an annual photo is recommended).

There are several approaches you can take to implement the above suggestions. One such method is the "rehearsal ap-



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## Back To School Safety



Though not dealt with in this article, proper street crossing is being employed here. The children have waited until it is safe to cross, but equally important, they are walking to school together — a great deterrent to abductions.

proach." In this technique, you would, for example, walk your child to school, pointing out potential hazards, reviewing safety guidelines, and then "rehearse" possible situations and solutions. In fact, child safety procedures can be utilized neighborhood-wide. You may want to select a "Block Parent" (somewhat analogous to the neighborhood watch program), in which a particular home is chosen where any neighborhood child can go in case of need. This should be a home where a parent or trusted adult will be home at most hours.

(Continued on page 38)



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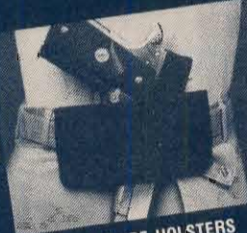
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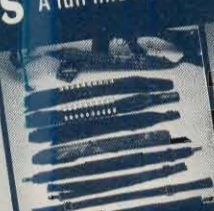
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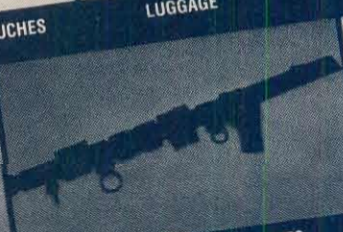
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## Combato:



**Bear hug defense:** An assailant has just grabbed this young woman entering her home. The victim hooks her left foot behind assailant's left knee to avoid being dragged away. She can then use her right foot to strike assailant's groin and her head to hit his face. Once free she uses a backhand forearm smash against attacker.

# Attack From Behind

*In the real world, most criminal assaults begin with restraint from the rear . . .*

By Robert S. McKay



**Rear headlock defense:** Approaching from behind, attacker gets into position preparing to apply a headlock. Momentum of the attacker drives the defender forward as his head is jerked down into the headlock. Defender immediately delivers a punch to the groin of the attacker, then, cocking both hands into the air, defender delivers hammerfist blows simultaneously to the testicles and kidneys of attacker. Breaking the hold, the defender now gouges the attacker's eyes with rigid, spread fingertips, then defender reaches up with his left arm to jerk attacker's head back for delivery of a chin jab.





**I**N most karate and kung-fu schools, the bulk of training and instruction focuses on face-to-face confrontations with an assailant. But out in the real world, those punches, leaping kicks, and fancy stances won't do you a bit of good if you're attacked from behind.

And the simple reality is that *most* criminal assaults begin with a restraint from the rear. Unlike competitors in a karate tournament, street criminals aren't going to attack you from the front so that you can "fight like a man." They aren't looking for a match of skill—they're looking for victims!

One modern self-defense system that emphasizes defenses from rear assaults is Combato, a totally street-oriented martial art founded by 6th Degree black belt Bradley J. Steiner of Seattle, Washington. Unlike most sport-oriented martial arts schools that place heavy emphasis on sparring for self defense, Steiner's Academy of Self-Defense focuses on up-close, down-and-dirty techniques that'll save your life in real street attack situations.

"Most of today's karate and kung-fu instructors," Steiner suggests, "simply misunderstand the true nature of real life combat. A violent, sociopathic criminal isn't going to fight you—he's going to victimize you! He'll use deceit, surprise, the cover of darkness, weapons, accomplices, and your own lack of 'street smarts' against you. Training to survive such assaults has nothing to do with tournament sparring methods. Particularly when you're attacked from behind."

Karate schools that do place importance on rear assault defenses often utilize highly choreographed sequences of techniques that are virtually impossible to apply in unique situations. Typically, a student might be taught six different ways to escape a bear hug, four releases from a headlock, and so on. Combato is radically different. Students rely on a few effective **basic techniques—eye stabs, elbow smashes, knee kicks, handaxe blows, stomps, and backhands—and are taught one basic sequence for each type of rear**

(Continued on page 68)

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## Back To School Safety

(Continued from page 34)

Child protection and safety, in fact, has become even more extensive. Schools, parents and communities are banning together to ensure the survival of the next generation. Many local businesses are offering a videotape service to assist in securing a lost or stolen child. Also, check with local police or your PTA for fingerprinting your child. As sad as it is to consider, such action on your part would greatly assist in identifying a body. Most would agree that knowing the outcome, as tragic as it is, is better than never knowing.

Many parents are also getting involved in the Child Safety Days program. See the list of organizations offering assistance in getting such a program started in your area.

**Drugs**—Despite every precaution you take to protect your child from molesters and abductors, the list of adversities your child has to deal with is frightening. One case in point: the prevalence of drugs in the schools and the neighborhood. Among high school seniors, 61 percent have used drugs. However, not only is drug use a serious problem in high school, but also in middle and elementary schools as well. In fact, the percentage of children using drugs by the sixth grade has tripled over the past 10 years.

Types of drugs used among kids today vary, and the selection is staggering. Yet, the most popular remain marijuana and alcohol, with cocaine on the rise. The peer pressure to use drugs is great. It is neither necessary nor healthy to keep strict surveillance on your child. However, being aware of the signs that may reflect a problem with drugs is necessary for the survival of

the family. Such behaviors to be cognizant of broadly include changing patterns in performance, appearance and behavior.

Physical changes that may indicate drug usage encompass memory lapses, short attention span, difficulty in concentration, poor physical coordination, slurred or incoherent speech, bloodshot eyes, dilated pupils and indifference to hygiene and grooming.

School performance can also be an indicator. What is the trend of grades? It doesn't have to be a distinct downward slide, like from Cs to Fs, but also from As to Bs to Cs. Are assignments getting completed? Check to see if there is an increase absenteeism or tardiness.

More concrete would be the discovery of physical possession of drug related paraphernalia such as rolling papers, pipes, small butane torches, strange odor or masking aroma such as incense. Even proprietorship of drug-related magazines, slogans or general conversations and jokes could indicate a preoccupation with illegal chemicals.

Other signs and alterations may be more obvious and more serious. Unfortunately, many parents don't recognize or notice drug abuse problems until this point. Hostility, sudden change in friends, chronic dishonesty, reduced motivation or energy, even trouble with the police can all be a result of drug abuse.

A list of toll free numbers is provided to assist in helping your child if any of these signs are consistently detected. They will instruct the actions you need to take.

Raising children is a major responsibility. It is not an easy task. While the joys of parenting override all else, safety pro-



Parks and school grounds are common places where crimes against children can happen. Do not leave children without proper supervision.

### Child Safety Resources

Listed are only a few organizations that can be helpful to a community's undertaking of a Child Safety Day Program. You may want to contact one and inquire if there aren't other such organizations closer to you.

**Adam Walsh Resource Center**  
1876 N. University Drive  
Suite 306  
Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33322

**Caution Without Fear**  
Camp Fire, Inc.  
4601 Madison Avenue  
Kansas City, MO 64112

**Child Find**  
PO Box 277  
New Paltz, NY 12561

**Child Keyppers of Florida**  
JoAnn Currier  
PO Box 6292  
Lake Worth, FL 33466

**Find the Children**  
Linda Otto  
1181 W. Olympic Boulevard  
Los Angeles, CA 90064

**ID-a-CHILD**  
PO Box 148  
Reno, NV 89504

**Kentucky Task Force on Exploited and Missing Children**  
Honorable Mitch McConnell  
Jefferson County Courthouse  
Louisville, KY 40101

**KID KIT**  
Kid Identification Data  
Glenwood, NJ 07418

**Kidnapping/Child Abuse: Crime Prevention Program**  
American Fork Police Department  
American Fork, UT 84003

**National Center for Missing and Exploited Children**  
1835 K Street, NW  
Suite 700  
Washington, DC 20006

**Virginia Beach Department of Police**  
Municipal Center  
Virginia Beach, VA 23456

cedures should not be overlooked or undermined. Most children reach adulthood without serious problems, which is reassuring. However, they do so because of the influence and guidance of responsible and knowledgeable adults.

*Note: Information for this article was gathered from the Child Safety Program Handbook as part of the Child Safety Program, associated with the Missing Children Project, and is co-sponsored by ACTION, the National Volunteer Agency, and the Department of Justice. Also, the U.S. Department of Education's softcover, What Works: Schools Without Drugs, was the source for that topic. ●*





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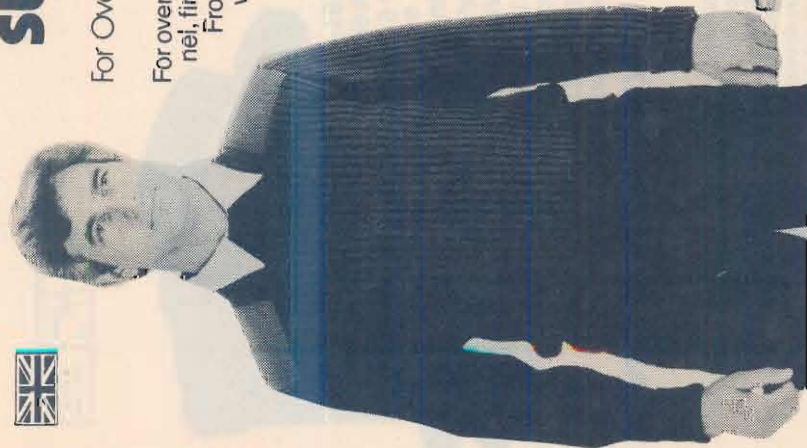
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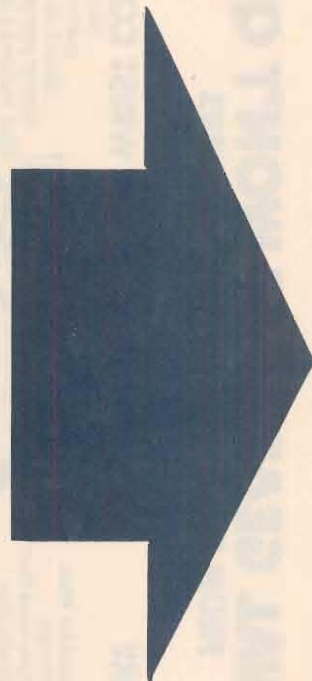
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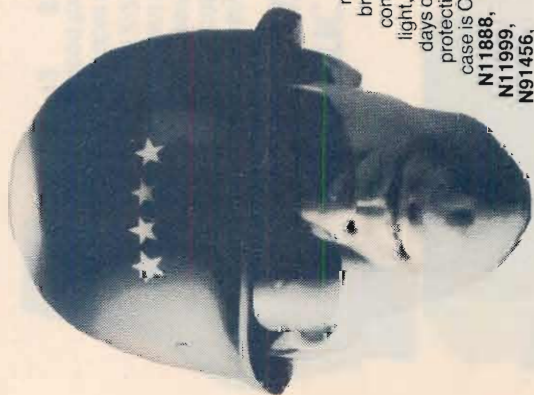
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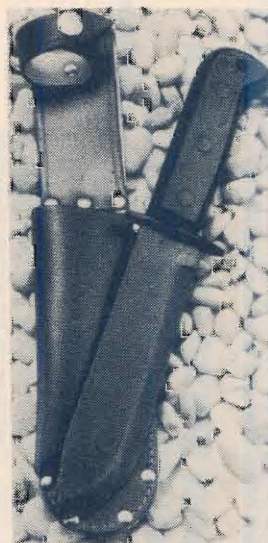
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U.S.-USSR:

# HOTLINE

*Among the most glaring lessons of the Cuban missile crisis was that the American and Soviet leaders needed to be able to communicate directly . . .*

U.S. military personnel examine a message from the Direct Communications Link between Washington and Moscow when it was first operational in 1963 (U.S. Army photo).



By Michael Pietrantonio

**D**URING the centuries of incessant warfare between the ancient Greek city states, an institution was developed to allow for communication between the leaders of the warring sides.

Agreements were reached to allow the free and safe passage of those who were designated to carry direct communications between leaders. These men, the most fleet of foot of both sides, were called heralds,

and were recognized by the brightly colored staffs and banners which they carried. It was an accepted rule of war that these heralds were to remain unmolested and were to be assisted in the delivery of the vital messages they carried.

The modern nuclear age version of the Greek herald is the Washington-Moscow Direct Communications Link, popularly known as the hotline.

In 1962 on the waters surrounding Cuba, U.S. and Soviet forces trained their weapons on each other and prepared to go

to war. The nuclear and conventional forces on both sides had been brought to high states of alert.

Neither side wanted a war, yet there was no way for the U.S. president and Soviet premier to communicate directly with each other and attempt to work out a settlement of the problem. Both sides feared the possibility that the escalating tension might cause their local commanders to begin hostilities without authorization. The two sides were aware that an accident or a miscalculation by either one might start World



### War III.

Eventually, through great restraint shown by both sides, and through very indirect methods of communication, the crisis was resolved and the world stepped back from the brink.

Among the most glaring lessons of the Cuban missile crisis was that the leaders of both sides needed to be able to communicate directly (and quickly) with each other during times of growing tensions. Thus was born the hotline.

The red telephone. The president speaking urgently with the premier, each trying to gauge the other's honesty and intent. These are the images most of us have of the hotline. Movies such as *Fail Safe* and *Doctor Strangelove* have done much to etch these images into our minds. As is often the case however, artistic license, in an effort to dramatize reality, has left us with many false impressions regarding the hotline.

On the third floor of the Pentagon is a suite of guarded, windowless rooms. Within this area is the oldest unified command center in the U.S. The National Military Command Center, NMCC, was set up in 1959 to provide a central locus through which the president and the National Command Authorities, NCA, would have access to, and control of, the nation's nuclear forces.

It is here, in a corner section of the NMCC, under a large seal emblazoned with the words Washington-Moscow Direct Communications Link, that one finds the real life hotline.

There is no red telephone, in fact there is no provision at all for voice communications in the hotline system. Since its inception, the hotline has been confined to written messages sent and received using conventional teletype machines. An upgrade of the system in 1985 allows graphics such as contour maps, drawings, and photos to be transmitted and received over the hotline system.

The lack of voice and/or video capabilities in the hotline system is no oversight. Both sides felt that direct voice or visual communications between the national leaders would create too high a risk of misunderstandings through errors in translation, subjective reaction, and hasty responses. It was, and is felt, that printed messages allow time for reflection and consultation and are thus a better format for communications.

The hotline was first set up in 1963 using two transmission links in order to insure the viability of the system. The primary link was a transAtlantic cable routed from Washington D.C. to London, Copenhagen, Stockholm, Helsinki, and finally, Moscow. The backup link was a high frequency radio net routed through a switching station in Tangier. In 1971 the United States and Soviet Union signed the Accidental Measures Agreement and, at the same time, agreed to upgrade the hotline. The upgrade dropped the high frequency



ABOVE — A scene on the U.S. end of the hotline in 1983, prior to installation of computerized terminals. SMSgt. Luis M. Montanez, USAF, sits at the operating position in the Washington terminal. Major Michael E. Ennis, USMC, center, and CTOC Strangle M. Arnold, USN, assist! (Department of Defense photo by Helene Stikkel).

radio link from the system and made the transAtlantic cable the backup link for the hotline. The new primary link was transferred to two satellites, one Soviet, one American.

The Direct Communications Link within the Pentagon is connected directly to the situation room within the White House. It is from the situation room that the president and his advisors formulate the messages to be sent on the hotline system, and analyze and interpret those messages received from the Soviets.

In order to assure continuous functioning of the system, test messages are sent between Washington and Moscow at regular intervals. These test messages flow from Washington to Moscow at even numbered hours, and from Moscow to Washington at odd numbered hours throughout the day.

The hotline system is operated by officers and enlisted personnel drawn from all four branches of the armed services. Highly skilled interpreters are available and able to give virtually instantaneous translation of incoming messages.

**System Uses**—The hotline system has been used a number of times since it became operational in 1963. While many of the system's uses have been made public, it is safe to assume that the hotline has been used in other instances not yet revealed.

The first acknowledged use of the hotline came about during the 1967 Arab-Israeli war. During the closing days of the

conflict, as it became clear that Israel was about to achieve an overwhelming victory, and possibly attack the Syrian capital city of Damascus, a hotline message was sent from the Soviet premier to President Johnson. The message stated the Soviet position that they would come to the aid of Syria should the situation deteriorate much further. To counter the Soviet threat, President Johnson ordered the U.S. Sixth Fleet to begin nearing the Syrian coast. At the same time, using the hotline, he sent a message to the Soviets stating that the two sides were nearing a cease fire agreement and that both superpowers should urge their respective allies to quickly reach such an understanding. A cease fire was reached a short time later.

Just a few days prior to the Soviet hotline message concerning Syria, the U.S. itself had used the hotline.

On June 8, 1967 the USS Liberty, an electronic intelligence gathering ship stationed in the Mediterranean, was attacked with heavy loss of life. For over an hour the U.S. did not know who had attacked the ship. Upon learning of the attack the president ordered aircraft from nearby U.S. carriers to investigate. At the same time the president used the hotline to assure the Soviets that the U.S. activity was not a prelude to U.S. intervention in the Arab-Israeli conflict. When it was finally learned, some two hours after the attack, that it was the Israelis who had attacked the Liberty, the president again used the hotline to inform the Soviets of this fact.



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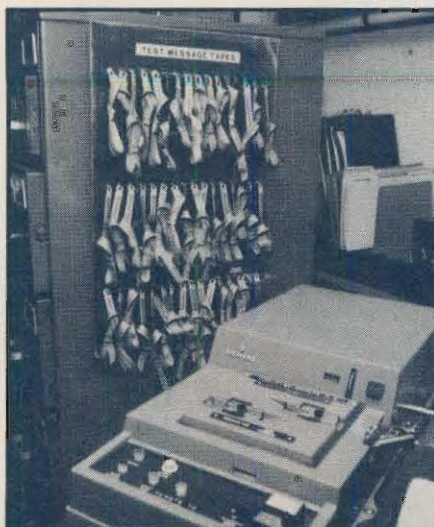
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## Hotline



ABOVE — Test messages in the Washington terminal of the Washington-Moscow Direct Communications Link which are sent out periodically to insure the line and equipment are functioning properly (Department of Defense photo by R.D. Ward).

The hotline was used again in October of 1973. The reason was once again a Mid-east war and an imminent Israeli victory.

In order to prevent the destruction of the Egyptian Third Army which was surrounded by Israeli forces, the Soviets sent a hotline message indicating that they would take military action to prevent such an occurrence. The U.S. responded with a hotline message that such action would bring about "the most severe crisis." The U.S. followed up the hotline message with a full scale nuclear alert, which was intended to be clearly visible to Soviet satellites and intelligence agencies. The crisis was eventually resolved when the Soviets backed away from their threat and the U.S. restrained the Israeli's from destroying the Egyptian Third Army.

In late December of 1979, as Soviet troops were pouring into Afghanistan, President Carter used the hotline to send a message to Secretary Brezhnev. The message called the invasion "a clear threat to peace" and suggested that it "could mark a fundamental and long lasting turning point in (U.S.-Soviet) relations." According to President Carter, Brezhnev responded with a "devious" hotline message of his own, asserting that the Soviets were only responding to armed incursions into Afghanistan and, in any case, would soon withdraw their forces.

Most experts now feel that this particular use of the hotline was a mistake on the part of President Carter, since the invasion of Afghanistan was not of a directly threatening nature to the U.S., and more importantly, since the U.S. was not at the time prepared to counter the Soviet action.

**Future Hotlines and Warmlines**—In 1982 Senators Nunn, Warner, and Jackson

revived a long dormant idea concerning the establishment of military risk reduction centers in the U.S. and USSR. The purpose of these centers would be similar to that of the hotline, though the centers themselves would be staffed with military officers of both sides. They would be used as a direct link between the command staffs of the two nations. Should an incident involving the military forces of the two sides occur, the staffs at the risk reduction centers would be able to communicate directly with each other in their efforts to defuse the situation. Had such centers been in place it is conceivable that the Soviet shootdown of KAL 007 might not have occurred.

There is still room for improvements of the hotline system itself. Both sides are investigating the possibility of adding additional hotline terminals to their alternate military command posts, so that in the event the main terminals are destroyed the two sides might still be able to communicate directly.

In 1963 when the hotline first became operational it was decided to place the terminals in Moscow and Washington only. Both sides were aware that the terminals were certain to be destroyed in the event of an attack. It was reasoned that the hotline system was designed to prevent escalation of a crisis and that should a crisis have gone beyond control to an actual nuclear exchange, the hotline system would have already become superfluous and its existence irrelevant.

Since 1963 however, other countries and even terrorist groups have achieved the ability to build nuclear weapons. Today it is not at all inconceivable that Washington or Moscow, along with their hotline terminals could be obliterated by a terrorist nuclear device. The ensuing confusion and panic, especially if there is a mood of crisis between the U.S. and USSR, could potentially lead to a full scale nuclear exchange between the two superpowers. There would be no way for the two leaders, or those replacing them, to communicate directly. Increasing the number and locations of hotline terminals is therefore a prudent step for both sides.

As superpower relations ebb and flow there remains in the background one constant. The ability of each side to initiate a global catastrophe. Whether one is a "hawk" or a "dove" there can be little doubt that the hotline serves a useful purpose. In times of crisis and escalating tension the hotline can, and already has, helped diffuse situations which could have gotten out of control.

Once before, in 1914, the twentieth century witnessed the effects of war by miscalculation. World War One was an accident which cost Europe an entire generation.

The next such accident, if not prevented by systems such as the hotline, will cost far more. ●



## SELECT FIRE 10/22

By Wayne Thornburgh



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This manual presents six different methods of converting the semiauto MAC 10 to FULL-AUTO. These methods range from very simple, full-auto only conversions to more involved, selective fire versions. All modifications are easy and require no difficult machining operations. Conversion techniques range from the mere removal of metal to the addition of simple, removable parts. 5 1/2 x 8 1/2, softcover, 52 pages, profusely illustrated.

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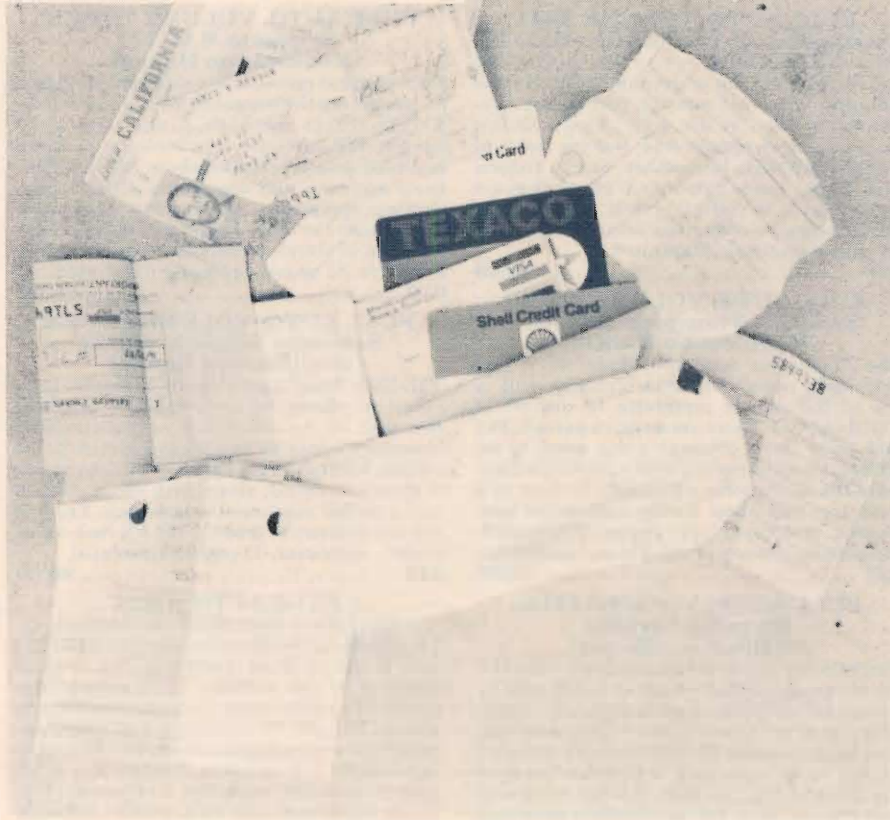




## Risk Management:

# BETTER SAFE THAN SORRY

Sources of information about you. How many credit cards, checking accounts, etc., do you need?



*Making your home and private life more secure . . .*

By Robert C. Smith

**Y**OUR neighbor next door just told you his brand new Jag was stolen last night. He had it locked up, had the alarm system on, but whoever stole it was a pro; it was gone and was going to stay that way. What did he do wrong?

The big, fancy house down the street was robbed again. This time, the thieves even stole the alarm system! It seems like the house positively attracts thieves. What's wrong?

Your buddy's new stereo system—the one he bragged cost him 10 thousand bucks—was stolen last night, along with half of the rest of the contents of his house. You can't understand how anyone could have picked his house to hit, he was always

careful about who he invited in and who he talked to.

These, and other modern horror stories about thefts and burglaries are all possible, and they all have a common thread. Basically, the people involved violated one of the cardinal rules of the modern survivalist: they didn't use risk management to help them avoid getting ripped off.

The term "risk management" has a certain esoteric ring to it, and makes a nice subject of conversation when you meet with your friends, but what does it really mean for the survivalist? The answer's simple: for us, "risk management" means adjusting and controlling our lifestyle to reduce the possibility that we'll find ourselves coming home to a house stripped of everything we value, perhaps having the

situation made all the worse if we find the cold body of someone we hold dear. Risk management is simply recognizing that a problem exists and acting to reduce or eliminate whatever risk attaches to the problem.

All the people in our examples raised their risk levels, and paid the price for being so foolish. The man who buys the fancy, flashy sportscar is setting himself up for grief and should have realized it—statistically, this type of car is more likely to be stolen than almost any other kind. To reduce the risk, avoid buying the car. The owners of the biggest, best, most expensive house in a neighborhood are setting themselves up for bad problems from the word go; big, expensive houses are attractive targets for professional—and amateur—thieves because they represent a concentrated source of loot. From a thief's viewpoint, you're more likely to find valuables in a wealthy looking house than in a house more in keeping with its neighbors, and you can guess who's more likely to be robbed. To reduce the risk, you avoid buying the biggest house in the neighborhood. The man who bragged to his neighbor about his expensive stereo system violated the most important rule of common sense: if he bragged to one person, he probably told everybody who'd listen what he was getting and how valuable it was. To reduce the risk, you don't advertise what you have or plan to get.

In the cold, bright light after the fact, it's easy to see where these people went wrong, but how can you avoid the problem? The answer's simple: look carefully at what you do that could give clues as to how valuable a target you'd be to a thief, then adjust your habits to reduce the risk.

The most common spot around the house where our lives interface with the outside world is the telephone. How many times have you been rudely interrupted in the middle of dinner by somebody calling up to chat for a few minutes? How many salesmen call you on the phone every day? There are several ways to avoid being bothered like this: you can pay for an unlisted number, you can use a false name in the phone book, or you can have your phone torn out. My personal preference is to have an unlisted number and control who I give my telephone number to; only business associates and close friends have mine. You could go further and buy a telephone that won't put a call through unless the caller uses a specific access code—great, but what happens in an emergency?



Telephone credit cards are nice, but can be and are abused to the point where they're more of a problem than they're worth when you audit your bill (you do audit your bills, and keep records of the calls you make on the card, don't you?). One of the reasons \$50,000 phone bills aren't paid by the ordinary homeowner is because they're so obviously wrong, but how many times have you just paid the bill instead of looked at it when you figured it was roughly correct. The smart phone freak will rotate his calls through several dozen numbers so the people don't catch on and the phone company doesn't catch him!

Most normal people leave the house at least once in a while, and that means you'll have some contact with people outside your immediate family circle. Human beings are gregarious, and tend to talk to one another, and since talking is communications, and communications is a form of data exchange, information will get out that you might not want out—unless you learn to control your tongue. You can choose between being known as the neighborhood grouch, an object of suspicion and gossip, and being known as just being very quiet by choosing to talk or not to talk with the people you meet. My personal preference is to talk and keep conversation to a polite minimum. The weather and traffic are usually safe subjects but I control whatever else I choose to talk about. Conversations that you let turn to what you earn and what you have are foolish. It's nobody else's business what you earn, where you work, or what you have; this is a matter between you, the IRS, the state taxing agency and no one else. The old saying about not discussing religion or politics is perfectly sensible, too; as soon as you express an opinion on either one, you're labeled, and who wants to be labeled?

**Mail**—Mail can sometimes be a problem. The best bet is to rent a post office box and have all your mail diverted there. Some mailmen are notoriously talkative and you don't want to have all our business spread around town any more than is absolutely necessary. Listen to the TV news once in a while when some loon is arrested for acting strangely; invariably, the newspaper reporters mention that "X" had survivalist magazines or gun magazines or (horror of horrors) a gun in his house.

In small towns, mail deliveries can be a real problem, since the post office is sometimes the local social center as well; you might be better off by getting a P.O. box in a nearby, larger town where the people have no real interest in you than to let your mail pass through some people's hands. This could be expensive, since you might have to rent a motel room or an apartment while the box application is processed.

Credit cards are another interface with the world that must be controlled. Everybody knows that if you lose one to a thief,

*Continued on page 52*

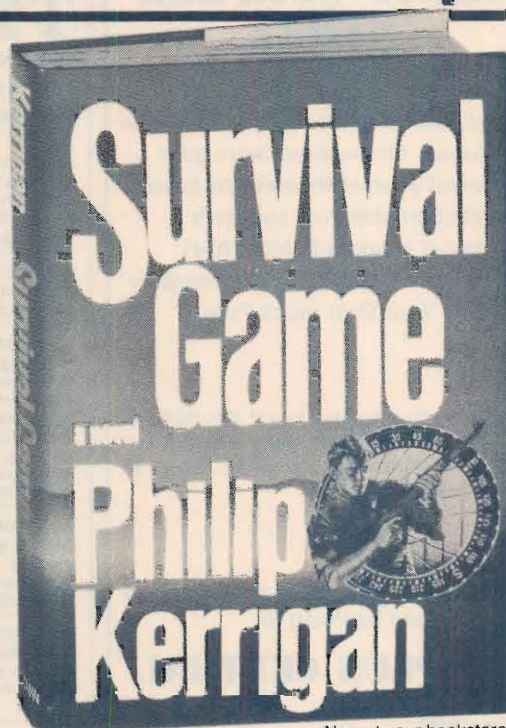
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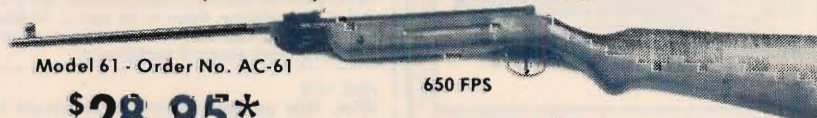
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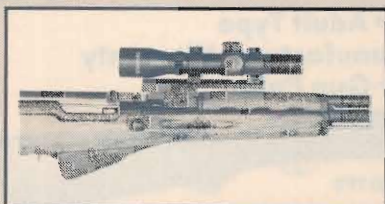
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## SURVIVALIST DIRECTORY

**T**HIS IS A CONFIDENTIAL listing of survivalists who wish to become known to others of like mind. *American Survival Guide* will accept properly coded mail and forward it to the coded addresses without charge. *American Survival Guide* accepts no responsibility for the contents or results of these confidential communications. Mass mailings are not permitted.

ASG 1101

**St. John's, Michigan**, group of teenage martial artists and survivalists interested in military combat techniques. Seeking to contact others in Midwest area to exchange ideas. Only decent Americans! No Rambos!

ASG 1102

**Kissimmee, Florida**, family wishes to meet Christian survivalists.

ASG 1103

**Ft. Bragg, North Carolina**, active duty military personnel interested in forming high-level, heavy security operations company. Looking for anyone with pertinent knowledge, training, and/or experience in security operations. Prior military experience helpful, but not necessary. No Rambos, crazies, or racists. Over 16, please. Company will begin in 1990 with possible base of operations in Maryland. All serious inquiries will be answered.

ASG 1104

**Alpena, Michigan**, serious survivalists interested in networking and forming a meaningful group. Privacy respected. All considered regardless of race, sex, nationality, etc.; Nazis, racists . . . forget it.

ASG 1105

**Arlington, Texas**, 30-year-old patriotic family man interested in starting or joining a combat survival group in Dallas, Fort Worth Metroplex area. No bigots or Nazis please.

ASG 1106

**Eatonstown, New Jersey**, seeking contact with persons interested in survival, exchanging ideas, self-sufficiency and ability to survive the future.

ASG 1107

**Columbia, South Carolina**, former Marine is looking for some good people to form a group in this state. Experience isn't necessary, but must be willing to learn. All survival skills needed, and then some. Families and females welcome. Also would like to correspond with groups and individuals in NC, SC, GA, FL, TN, AL, MS, LA.

ASG 1108

**St. Augustine, Florida**, would like to be known to others of like mind. Seeking to form small, cohesive group to train hard. Only patriotic Americans need apply. All ages and races welcome. Want to be part of local/national network. Can help build retreats; have construction skills and small weapons background.

ASG 1109

**Brick, New Jersey**, experienced 26-year-old training specialist from behind the Iron Curtain (former soldier in Hungarian Army). Would like to join Christian paramilitary survival group. Will relocate. Also available to provide military-type training for beginners. All communications kept confidential. Communists need not reply.

ASG 1110

**St. Augustine, Florida**, three groups (St. Augustine, Jax and Gainesville) seek other groups and individuals from the state. Also seeking to form southern survival network for information exchange. Only Florida and southern states, please. Reply now. No Nazis.

ASG 1111

**San Francisco, California**, looking for people interested in forming a social group focusing on survivalism, shooting, outdoors sports, self reliance, etc. All races, women, couples welcome. Kooks and racists need not reply.

ASG 1112

**Rockville, Maryland**, China hand seeking computer, electronic, instructional, legal, medical and machine technologists interested in industrial and technological survival. Viral agents threaten industrial society as it is currently configured. Social and economic reconfiguration will provide functional alternatives. Persons "actively" concerned please respond. God alone knows.

ASG 1113

**Gainesville, Florida**, survival team now forming in the Alachua county and surrounding area. Looking for all

areas of interest from military to gardening. All races, sexes, ages 15 and above please respond. No racists, communists or "gun shop commandos."

ASG 1114

**Ladson, South Carolina**, 16-year-old survivalist looking for others of same in area. Would like to exchange ideas with people across the country.

ASG 1115

**Phoenix, Arizona**, serious teen survivalists in area looking to form teen paramilitary survival group specializing in desert operations. Need specialists in medical and rappelling.

ASG 1116

**West Newton, Pennsylvania**, looking for Christian-oriented families or person in western Pennsylvania to start survival group.

ASG 1117

**Dillsboro, Indiana**, survivalist seeks correspondence with others. Wishes to trade knowledge. Females encouraged to reply. Please write soon. Thank you.

ASG 1118

**Ontario, Canada**, seeking contact with individuals or groups who would like to be part of one of the region's oldest survival groups. Security and confidentiality will be strictly adhered to. All age groups, male or female, will seriously be considered.

ASG 1119

**Randle, Washington**, S/M/M 31 yrs old wishes to contact other survivalist people who believe in their Israelite Heritage. Prefer people who live in Washington state.

ASG 1120

**St. Augustine, Florida**, seeking to form true survival organization throughout state. Individuals and groups needed to make it work. All ages. No Nazis, communists or racists. Training events in planning. Please help make it work. Send information on yourself or your group. All letters responded to.

ASG 1121

**Nacon, Georgia**, and surrounding areas, patriotic Christian family would like to form or join other persons with survival interest. Would like to exchange information on basic and advanced methods of survival. No radicals or neo-Nazis.

ASG 1122

**Dardanelle, Arkansas**, family of three seeking to start small group of survival-minded people in the Russellville area. Low profile philosophy. No Rambo types, racists, or religious fanatics, please.

ASG 1123

**Northern New Jersey**, survivalist group seeks correspondence with others with same interests. Wish to exchange knowledge in New Jersey and all over.

Address response letters as follows:

**American Survival Guide**

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Anaheim, CA 92801

Your letters will be forwarded to persons listed within two days of receipt. *American Survival Guide* accepts no responsibility for loss or delay of inquiry letters. Contact letters that do not carry the appropriate code number will be discarded.

Those who wish to be added to the directory listing, please send names and address to *American Survival Guide*, 2145 West La Palma Avenue, Anaheim, CA 92801. The listing is free. ●



## M1A Rifle

(Continued from page 25)

photographs.

This was my first time shooting this type of rifle but my partner, Mike, is a former jarhead (Marine) and has shot the M14 in the service. I did not find recoil or muzzle rise to be as strong as I had imagined. The gas system of this rifle seems to work well. I was afraid with the light stock that recoil would have been stronger, but it seemed relatively mild. Mike thought it was mild also compared with the military M14s he'd shot. He thought this was possibly because there wasn't the heavy wood stock to come slamming back at you on recoil. We estimated pull to be about 7½ pounds. The trigger pull is smooth, with no drag.

We tried out several types of 7.62mm ammunition in our test firing, including some Nigerian military surplus stuff of undetermined bullet weight, some new 150-grain bullet ammunition made by a local gun shop, and some Winchester brand 147-grain ball ammo. All of the ammunition was conventional full metal jacketed military ball type.

After running through a few magazines full of cartridges in sighting in, we had each made one hit on the tank. We were not looking for pinpoint accuracy here but rather, just wanted to be able to make effective hits on the silhouette target, since we did not have an unlimited supply of ammo. With the rifle roughly zeroed, we settled in and fired some of our last ammo for accuracy—40 rounds, to be exact.

In sighting the target I found it was so far away that about the best I could do was cover the target with the front sight and center the top of the front post sight in the rear peep sight. I squeezed off 40 fairly quick shots this way. We had arrived early that morning but it was getting close to noon now and the sun was beating down on us. We had other shooting and photographing to do so this last 40 rounds fired at the target would have to be it. Mike spotted while I fired and he said he was sure we'd made some hits.

We drove up to the tank and found, to our delight, that we'd punched about 15 new holes in the tank, most of them on the silhouette target, including some good killing-type hits on the head and torso. Fifteen hits out of 40 shots fired for accuracy may not seem that good but we were shooting fairly quickly and from 500 yards with iron sights. We are quite satisfied that this stock M1A rifle is capable of very good accuracy at long ranges. Imagine what you can do with a good scope!

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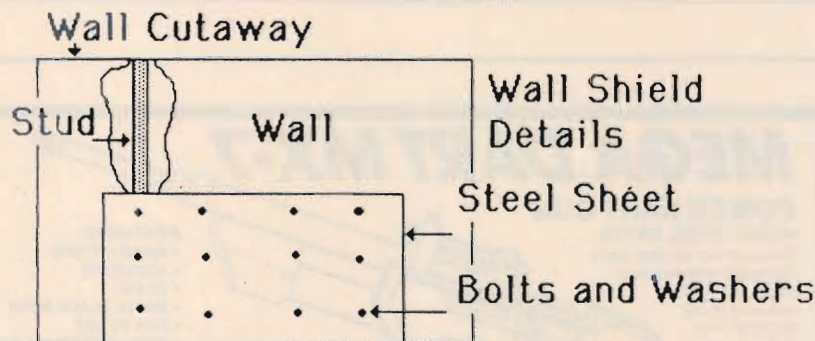
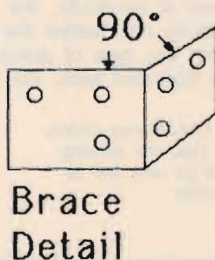
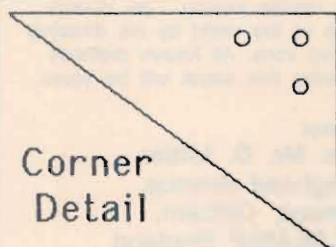
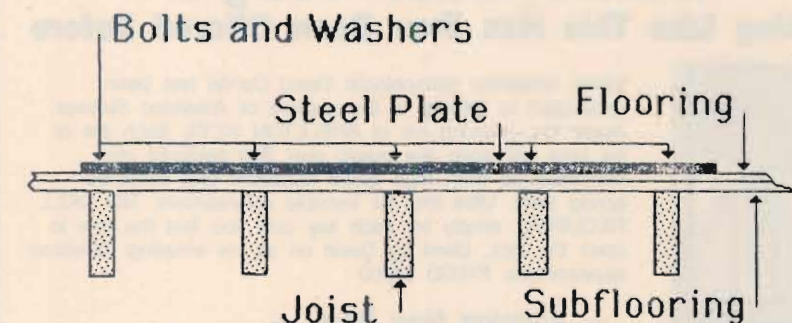
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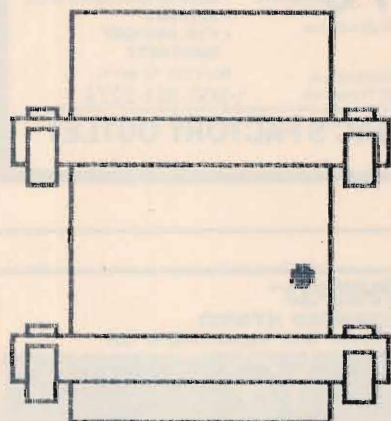


## Better Safe Than Sorry

Continued from page 49



### SHIELD DETAILS



### BARRED DOOR

you can be almost bankrupted unless your state has a liability limiting law. In some cases, less than honest salesmen will take the carbon out of discarded slips and use them to access your card.

You might not find out about somebody doing this for almost a month! Dishonest people who have access to credit card records can also charge small items to heavily used accounts and probably get away with the practice for a long, long

time. Short of eliminating plastic cash and using currency only, which sets you up for other problems, there isn't any way to control credit cards other than to limit the purchases on them and keep complete records of when, where, how, and how much you spend with the cards. If you have a half dozen or more active cards, this can get quite complicated. My recommendation is to cut the number of cards back to a bare minimum. NOBODY really needs 25 or more credit cards!

Carrying cash is a problem as well. If you have the habit of flashing your bankroll, you're setting yourself up as a target for a pickpocket or robber. If you don't carry cash, and still pay bills, how do you do it safely?

This is where clever use of your bank accounts comes into play. Pay by check, but keep only a minimum amount of money in the checking account; keep the rest of your money in another bank. Carry the checks with you, and if they're stolen or you're forced to sign a check, the absolute worst that happens is that you put a stop on all your checks from that account or you can write off a few hundred bucks. Incidentally, the checking account is

another place to watch your interface with the world.

When you go shopping, you're setting up a pattern. Try not to go to the same stores at the same time every time you go shopping. Habits are bad security; besides, spreading your purchases around helps the economy. People also watch what you buy. If you're a survivalist, you usually buy a little extra to build up your stocks. People will note that and could reveal the fact later—to your sorrow!

When you bring your purchases home, don't be foolish as to advertise what you bought. People look, and gossip, and pretty soon you're being called an eccentric millionaire. That can set you up as an inadvertent target. Some purchases can't be concealed. Refrigerators are difficult to slip under your coat and bring into the house. For smaller items, you can reduce the profile by slipping a brown paper store bag over a fancy box for camouflage. Nobody gets excited about groceries. You can also wait until dark to bring some items in.

By the way, when you buy anything large or small, a refrigerator, a portable TV, or a washing machine for example, destroy the boxes and cart them away yourself. If you put cartons out for the garbage collectors, you're advertising exactly what you just bought—a new portable TV, a computer system, whatever—to anyone who walks by and that automatically raises your profile to the point where the risk of interference becomes very high.

There are literally thousands of ways other people can access your records or otherwise get into your business. This article can't list but a few of them; you have to examine your own lifestyle yourself and decide what habits you have, what tastes, what particular opinions you have that can unduly raise your risks. Remember, unless you live like a guru—a poor one—in total isolation, there has to be some data interchange between you and the outside world; normal human existence means interchange. The clue is in controlling what data you put into circulation.

Some people believe that you can avoid getting on Uncle's great computers in Washington. The truth is, you can't. If you live in a house, there's a record; if you rent an apartment, there's a record; if you have utilities, there's a record; if you were in the service (or use VA health facilities), there's a record; if you earn money and pay taxes, there's a record; if you have money in the bank, there's a record; if you own a car or have a driver's license, or have insurance, or were born, or buy on credit, or (maybe even) breathe, there's a record of the fact somewhere. Worrying about Big Brother knowing when our bowels move is foolish, not to mention paranoid.

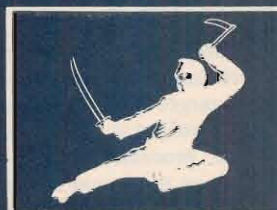
If a government wants to arrest you, it will; if a government wants to nab you overseas, it can; if a government wants to collect records on you, it will. However, unless you're a specific target of an investi-

Continued on page 54



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## Better Safe Than Sorry

Continued from page 52

gation, the sheer volume of records makes a search impossible; even when you're the specific target of an investigation, the data volume involved is usually so huge that it can't be processed adequately (besides, why do you think you're the target of an investigation?). The object here is to avoid situations in which you create unnecessary records. Control your profile as much as possible and the odds will be in your favor.

**Losses, Injuries**—Suppose you've successfully avoided the dangers of having a high profile, but someone still breaks into your home. What can you do to prevent loss and possible injuries? Modern legal interpretations severely limit the actions you can take against intruders to the point where the victim stands to face greater legal problems than the criminal. The use of force—any kind, deadly or not—by the homeowner is a chancy, risk-filled proposition in most jurisdictions. The simple act of defending yourself against an attack may result in your being imprisoned, sued, and bankrupted. Obviously, in "normal" times, you won't want to risk this sort of punishment.

The answer is that we have to plan on creating a modification of the castle keep—the central, most heavily defended, part of a castle, where the last-ditch defense was planned to happen for ourselves and our families. We have to decide what sort of defenses to include in our "safe rooms" by analyzing possible threats. If there's a genuine expectation that the homeowner might face a siege, plans will include different, and better, defenses than if someone merely wants to delay the intruder long enough to get out of the building.

Before we go on to discuss the safe room in general, we should mention some actions we can take to make an intruder's job more difficult. First of all, read the other articles in this series and modify them as necessary to meet your individual situation. Second of all, you can make internal access within your house more difficult; to do so, you want to compartmentalize the house as much as possible because this will slow intruders down, and give you time to act without the risk of acting in a panic situation.

The basic idea is to adapt the same system of secure doors inside the house as you installed outside. In some cases, each bedroom door should be as strong as any exterior door. The reason's obvious. If someone can't break down a bedroom door easily, they'll be deterred from getting into the room and any person inside is less likely to be injured than would otherwise be the case; the reverse is true as well, since someone who penetrates one room won't be able to easily get into the rest of the house. Long corridors, long hallways, stairwells, any choke points that divide the house into logical sections, and so forth,

can be protected by a good door and lock.

You should realize in case you do compartmentalize the house, that there should be an individual fire alarm in each room or section. By compartmentalizing the house you may increase your risk in a fire. It can be mitigated by having all second (or third) story windows equipped with a safe, fire-proof ladder that more than reaches to the ground and holding regular drills in using them with all family members. In fact, the same fire drill can be used to protect against intruders. Above all, teach everyone to rendezvous in a single, special spot in the event of any trouble whatever; this way, you'll be able to tell who's safe and who's not.

The problem at this point is to choose which room you want to make into the safe room. Actually, the choice of rooms to convert is rather simple. You want a room that everyone can get to in an emergency and that has easy access for you and your family, that gives an easy exit for a possible flight, that can be defended against a severe attack, and that can remain intact and defensible under the most likely attack.

The choice usually comes down to either of two rooms: the master bedroom or the bathroom. Some of the reasons are obvious: a ready source of water (fill the tub, since the opposition may decide to turn off your water half-way through a siege), a possible escape route, and others; however, the problem is that these rooms are seldom absolutely secure; advice about getting into the bathtub to lessen the risk of being hit by stray rounds is nice—for one or two people at the most. There are better things that can be done.

The most important modifications that can be done when establishing a safe room is to harden the room as much as possible, while simultaneously leaving escape routes open. The door should be hardened by using steel plate. I also advise using a wooden bar or two to prevent anyone forcing the door.

Walls are extremely difficult to harden, although a variety of ways have been suggested depending on your needs and desires: some people suggest lining them with bricks or concrete blocks (unfortunately, both of them shatter under gunfire and spray fragments through the wall), others, building up a barrier of bullet-resistant material—soft armor—in the walls, and still others have suggested putting metal panels in the walls.

No solution is perfect. The bricks and blocks weigh so much that the physical structure of the house can be damaged, while soft armor or steel are expensive in the kind of quantities needed to protect a house. One interesting failing in this sort of argument is the fact that the floor and ceiling of the safe room is seldom protected. In my personal opinion, if you plan to harden the walls, hire a contractor to do the job. This goes beyond the abilities of most home handypersons. If you want to

prevent anyone from getting through the walls, the best bet would be to install extra wooden studs in the walls, between the normal studs. These are installed on 16-inch centers, so including one or two studs between the regular wall studs would create an effective, cheap barrier.

What sort of equipment do you need inside the safe room? If you believe you're going to be subjected to violent attack, include your favorite guns and a good supply of ammo, that way, if somebody starts shooting at you you can reply in kind. A telephone would be nice, but a battery-powered CB would be better, since phones can be cut off at the most inopportune times—like in the middle of a call for help! If you have an attached bathroom, you have water at hand; even so, lay in a supply of water for emergencies; remember, fill the tub and basins. A fire extinguisher is handy, but the gases can extinguish you too if they're confined in a small room. Water can't be used around electrical fires, so I recommend a couple of sand buckets—the sand's cheap, effect against all types of fires, and can be cleaned up and reused immediately, something you can't do with an empty fire extinguisher. A food supply is optional—face it, how long do you think you can hold out unaided against a howling mob, thirsting for your blood? If you said more than five minutes, you need to seriously rethink your planning!

One thing you should do if at all possible is to have your house circuit breakers installed in the safe room (if not in violation of local codes). Cutting off the electricity at the opportune moment may be a life-saving action; preventing it from being cut off easily might also be a life-saving action! If you can manage it, all utilities should be arranged in just this way. Frankly, the safe room is a stopgap, an emergency location that might protect you from attack for the vital few minutes needed to get outside help. It is not a universal panacea, it is not guaranteed for all situations. You have to make the judgment as to the usefulness of the safe room under your conditions.

But if the safe room isn't sufficient, how will you be able to protect yourself and your family from attack? You may not be able to. It may be that you'll have to flee your home under attack; if so, make certain that you have an accessible exit. A window too small, a door that doesn't open, a folding ladder that doesn't reach the ground, immovable burglar bars on the window, can all spell the difference between survival and death. Check out all the factors that you can control in advance, before disaster threatens.

Don't hesitate to throw your folding ladder out of a second-story window to test it. You should climb in and out the window and see if it can be done. If you're worried the neighbors might think you're crazy, tell 'em you're testing the ladders for use in case of a house fire if you want, since everybody understands that problem. ●



## Home Defense

(Continued from page 19)

ing yourself and your family against a direct threat. You may have been under the impression that the intruder was carrying a weapon, many night burglars do; don't forget to mention that you saw what happened to be a weapon when you do make a statement. Make sure not to forget to mention, as well, the fear, the terror that you felt (this is definitely not the time for macho pride), and don't forget to mention that you warned the intruder to get out (you did, didn't you? . . . of course you did!), and make sure the authorities know that you did not perceive of any way to escape from the intruder. Yes you can defend yourself, but understand that the degree of justification you have for using deadly force may be reckoned by the degree of reasonable fear of harm you felt at the time of the intrusion.

"Gosh, officer, I wasn't afraid. I could see he wasn't armed, and beside, we could'a got away any time we wanted."

"Gosh, citizen, I guess you're under arrest, then!"

Perhaps a bit of an exaggeration, but not totally unreal. Another point to remember is to avoid discussing the details of the case with friends and neighbors unless it is a calculated attempt to reinforce the popular (and true) impression that you did indeed perceive a deadly and inescapable threat to you and your family and that you were terrified into defending yourself.

You may feel really terrible for taking another life, even if unavoidable. You may feel like a beast . . . if so, tell *only* your lawyer about it, and only in private. Statements said under emotional stress and upset may come back to haunt you! Casual conversations have a way of showing up in court.

In conclusion, don't be paranoid . . . be prepared. CYA! Be prepared to be safe before, during and *after* a break-in.

Don't break the gun laws of your community when preparing your defense. Don't do things like using a sawed off shotgun when a short, but legal length gun will do. Don't stash an unlicensed handgun for emergencies when a bit of work will get you a premises permit (almost anyone can get one of these, even in New York City!). Be aware (beforehand) that you will be held accountable for your actions after an incident. This does not necessarily mean that you'll be arrested or tried for a crime, but be as prepared with defenses for the authorities as you are for **defenses for the crooks.**

Yes, it is better to be judged by 12 than to be carried by six . . . but if you're smart, you won't have to be either judged or buried! ●

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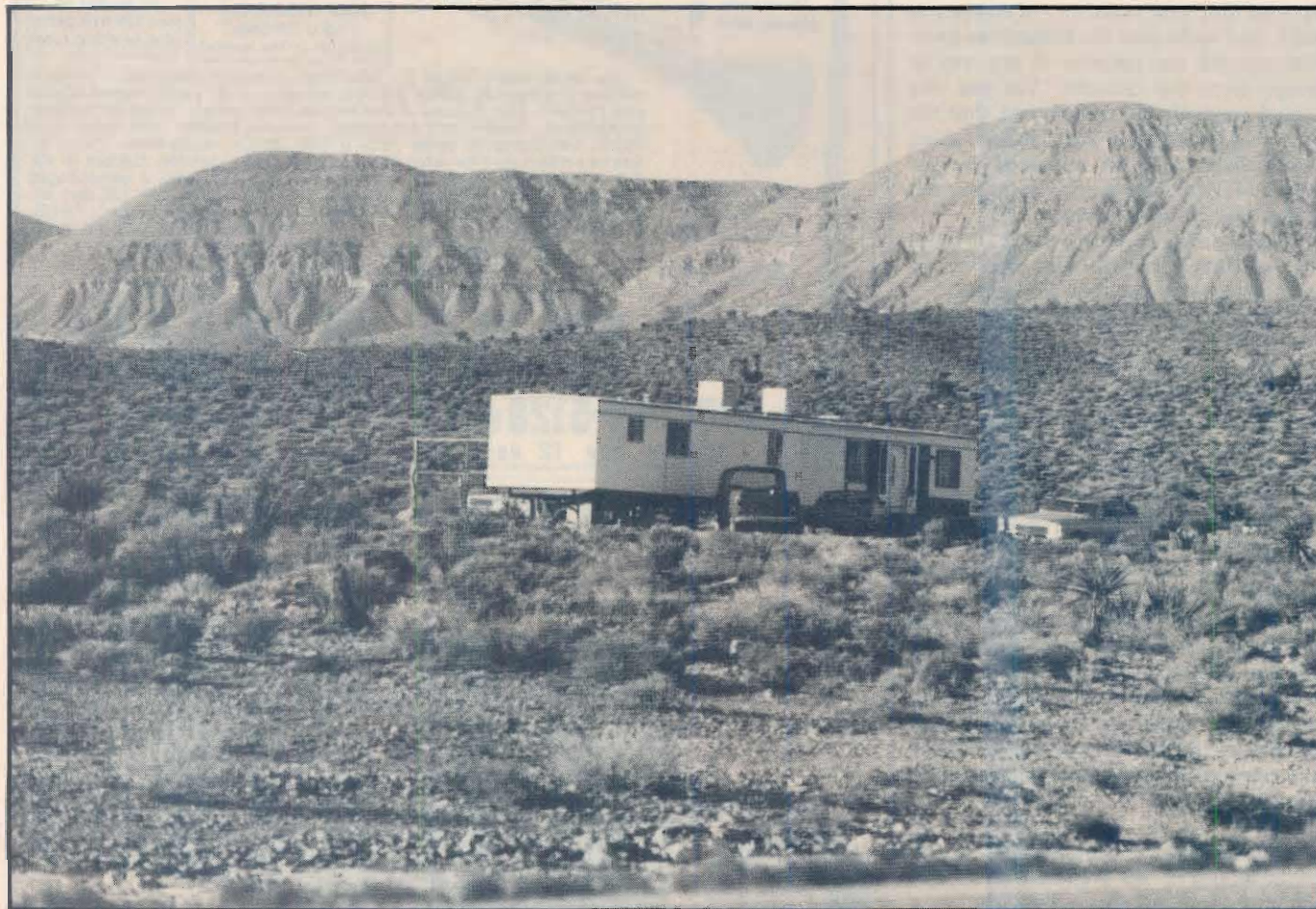


Cabin, Trailer, Retreat:

# Basic Rural Living Security

*The bulk of secluded living security is prevention and plans made in advance of trouble . . .*

By Darrell E. Mulroy



ABOVE — This trailer in Nevada is a typical rural living arrangement. There is no telephone and help may be hours away. Planning ahead for security can give you the winning edge.

**H**AVING a cabin or another home in a rural area can produce a series of security problems. Of course crime is not a major problem in rural America, but it still exists and the figures show a steady increase. The movement of the drug industry into rural America for the growth and distribution of the products has also created new problems.

This past hunting season a number of hunters stumbled into booby traps set by drug growers in remote areas. There have been increasing reports of hunters and hikers being confronted by armed drug merchants in remote rural areas.

Criminals fleeing the arms of the law

also know that rural areas afford protection and they roam remote areas well armed and very dangerous.

If you have a lake cabin or retreat in the wilderness you can plan ahead to avoid problems. Some things are obvious like not leaving keys in vehicles or leaving loaded guns in unattended vehicles. You would be shocked to know how many guns are stolen from vehicles in remote areas. In South Dakota several hundred pistols, rifles, and shotguns are stolen from vehicles every year.

It's real macho good ol' boy stuff to leave a gun in the back window of the pickup truck, but it is stupid also. Anytime a gun

is left unattended it should be secured and locked up in some manner.

Many rural homes don't have electricity or telephones. My Black Hills cabin has only a small generator. At night the darkness is incredible. There are ways to protect yourself at night.

You can surround the area with a simple detection system. You can set up a series of "traps" that alert when someone is in the area. Small bells, cans with rocks and a host of items limited only by your imagination will do the job. Using fish line you can cover a large area. Keep the traps at a height that will avoid most animals. If your area is populated by bear, deer and other





LEFT — Teaching family members to handle firearms, including long range shooting, is a key part of rural living security. A .357 magnum is nothing to laugh at, even at distances out to 100 yards and more.

BELOW — The .22 Long Rifle cartridge is still quite popular in a rural defense role. It's cheap and you can put up a great volume of fire.



large animals the task is more difficult but not impossible.

I have also measured off distances and know to the foot how far it is from one point of the property to the other. If I have to fire at a distant assailant I know my ranges in advance.

If I have to flee the cabin area, I have numerous places I can conceal myself or members of my family. We have held brief security training classes on the subject and have several pre-arranged meeting places if we get split up.

The bulk of secluded living security is prevention and plans made in advance of trouble.

From time to time strangers are in the area either during tourist season or hunting season. I enjoy meeting them and being of any help that I can and I've met many nice people that we have made lasting friendships with.

The first time any of them approached our property I can assure you they were well covered. Nobody pointed guns at anyone, but we have a plan that allows us to find out who they are and what we can do for them without placing ourselves in a position that would allow ourselves to be harmed.

Only one of the family will approach a stranger. We talk from a comfortable distance and when we feel comfortable they may be invited to the cabin. During their visit you can be sure at least one or more members of the family have easy access to a defensive weapon.

In very rural areas the laws of the land still apply, but the enforcement is going to be your job. A few hunting seasons ago we had an intoxicated hunter that liked the looks of a female member of the family. We gave him directions and sent him on his way and kept a close watch the rest of the night.

**Weapons**—In rural areas defensive and hunting arms are interchangeable for utility. A Remington 870 can be switched from defense to hunting use by a quick change of the barrel.

Our Ruger 10-22 rifle has extra capacity magazines that change it from sport to defense in seconds.

Handguns used for hunting and defense in a rural setting are easily adapted to the dual responsibility. In most rural areas you can carry a handgun under a coat without concern for permits. Some laws may restrict you to your own property however. Be sure to check on all applicable laws.

The common .22 Long Rifle cartridge is very popular and is nothing to sneeze at for defensive purposes. Most .22s in rifle or pistol form will dish out firepower at reasonable ranges even in the hands of semi-skilled shooters.

While hiking around the Black Hills I always carry a .22 pistol. Most of the time it's a small Jennings .22. I carry a box of hollow-points in my coat pocket and an extra magazine. For that area I don't feel under equipped at all. It works as a trail and defense gun.

Living in rural areas allows gun owners to practice a lot more than city folks and that is a real bonus for defensive situations. Since leaving the big city I find myself shooting to the limit of my income. The freedom to target practice is a real bonus of country living.

Many rural dwellers aren't gun buffs and would like to have a single gun on hand for defense. The first choice is often a 12 gauge shotgun, followed by a .22 rifle. Both choices are viable if you are skilled in their use.

A friend bought a 12 gauge single-shot shotgun and had the barrel cut to 18 inches. He had rifle sights installed and sling swivels. He can shoot slugs or shot loads and he keeps 00 buck loads in a canvas holder on the stock.

If you choose a pistol, the .22 loaded with hollow-points is a nice dual-use choice. A Ruger .22 auto or similar gun is a good choice plus you can afford extensive practice with it.

The second choice might be a .357 Magnum which would allow use of .38 Special loads. It would be up to you to decide which would be most effective in your own application.

Scores of trespassers, rustlers, and prowlers have been run off with 30-30s, 44-40s and a host of other weapons. The whole idea of rural living is to live your life without anyone to bother you. That is the way it should be for all of us, but there are times a few forget the rules and we have to help them remember. ●



## Terrorist Arsenal:

# Megadeath Weapons

*What can a terrorist group do to gain credibility as a potent and dangerous force to be taken seriously? . . .*

By Carl H. Yaeger

**I**MAGINE the following scene: the Governor's mansion in a large eastern state receives this telephone call:

"You will release all of the prisoners of war from your penitentiary of the New World Freedom Force within two days, and make arrangements for them to fly to Libya. If you refuse, a horrendous mega-

death weapon will be launched against one of your state's population centers."

An aide gives the Governor the ultimatum an hour after his meeting with the state's association of professional educators. There's no hurry. After all, the Governor has received crank threats from would-be terrorist groups before, and

nothing came of them, but just to be on the safe side, he asks his director of public safety to check on this "New World Freedom Force."

The director checks with the National Crime Data bank and comes up with some startling discoveries. A NWFF commando cell had raided an army chemical warfare depot six months previously and made off with several 155 millimeter artillery shells filled with deadly nerve gas. Another NWFF cell was known to have ordered several kilograms of *escherichia coli*, a virulent micro-organism from a microbiological research establishment using stolen letterhead stationery from a university research laboratory.

The most disturbing information of all, however, is the rumor that a brilliant young physics student from Yale University joined the ranks of the NWFF a year ago. He gained more than passing notoriety in the media by proving, that from public sources of information and from materials obtained on the open market, that he could design and build a crude, but entirely workable Hiroshima-size (20 kiloton) atomic bomb.

Now the Governor is on the horns of a dilemma; ignore the threat, and invite the possibility of mass casualties from an atomic blast in the center of the state's largest city; or a chemical warfare attack on a massed gathering; or the isidious spread of a death-dealing plague. Cave into the terrorists demands and set a dangerous precedent. Every bush-league terrorist and nut group in the country will attempt to hold cities, states, and perhaps even the national government, hostage, claiming that they will unleash a doomsday megadeath weapon if their demands are not met.

Fortunately, this scenario is only fiction.

The era of the terrorist truck bomb has been with us since the early 1980s. The initial, terrible shock of the RDX-propane enhanced truck bomb which killed 241 marines in Beirut is now history. There have been many more truck bombs since, and the world has become somewhat desensitized to them. In other words, truck bombing is no longer a media event, and terrorists thrive on media exposure.

What then, can a terrorist group with







limited resources do to gain credibility as a potent and dangerous force to be taken seriously? One answer is to use a mass-casualty weapon . . . one that can cause thousands of deaths in a single attack.

Chemical agents, such as various types of nerve gas, are definitely within the reach of most terrorist groups. The chemical and laboratory supplies needed to prepare lethal agents are available on the open market, and the required procedures for manufacturing them have been published in dozens of articles in open literature. It is relatively simple to make violently toxic nerve agents because the manufacturing techniques are similar to those in making insecticides. The chemicals are readily available through chemical supply houses. The nerve agent Sarin, for example, can be synthesized in 100-gram quantities by any organic chemist for a monetary investment of a few thousand dollars.

Terrorist groups do not have to go to the trouble of making their own toxic chemicals. There is always the possibility of stealing lethal chemicals from military sources. The army stores and transports batches of toxic chemicals from storage sites to destruction sites with regularity. These chemicals are stored in 10 states and, although some of these storage facilities are adequately secured some have been notoriously lax.

Libya, according to a November 7, 1976 article in the *Boston Globe*, was becoming the center for nerve gas terrorism. A subsequent article on February 24, 1977 in the *New York Daily News* described a nerve gas episode where a terrorist group planned to dump a large quantity of Libyan-supplied nerve agent into New York City's water supply. Military experts claimed that it would take several tons of lethal nerve gas to poison the 31-billion gallon reservoir.

Maybe so. But what would a canister do if pumped into the ventilating system of Madison Square Garden or of an enclosed stadium? It's entirely possible that every

spectator would be dead within minutes. One can assume, that if Libya had embarked upon a program to become the terrorists' nerve gas center of the world 10 years ago, they probably would have achieved it by now.

Terrorist groups do not have to manufacture or steal chemical weapons. Many chemical weapons are already in place, just waiting for a disaster to set them off. I'm referring, of course, to the thousands of chemical storage sites used for industrial processes. The chemical accident at Bophal, India, is a case in point. Huge chemical plants in the United States store deadly chlorine gas at hundreds of storage facilities. A small leak from an Allied Corporation chemical plant caused 10,000 people to evacuate an area north of Baton Rouge, Louisiana. If these chlorine tanks were sabotaged so they exploded without warning, then thousands might have died from chlorine clouds.

Remember Legionnaires disease in the 1970s? Some journalists, including Jack Anderson, believe it might have been a terrorist chemical attack. There was even some speculation that it was a "performance" test by a terrorist group. The killer disease was not a disease at all, claim some experts. The killer in this case was a potent toxic chemical called nickel carbonyl which may have been pumped through the air conditioning system at the American Legion's Philadelphia convention site. Experts on nickel poisoning stated that the exposure to nickel carbonyl must have been willfully introduced because the quantity found in the tissue of the victims could not be otherwise explained.

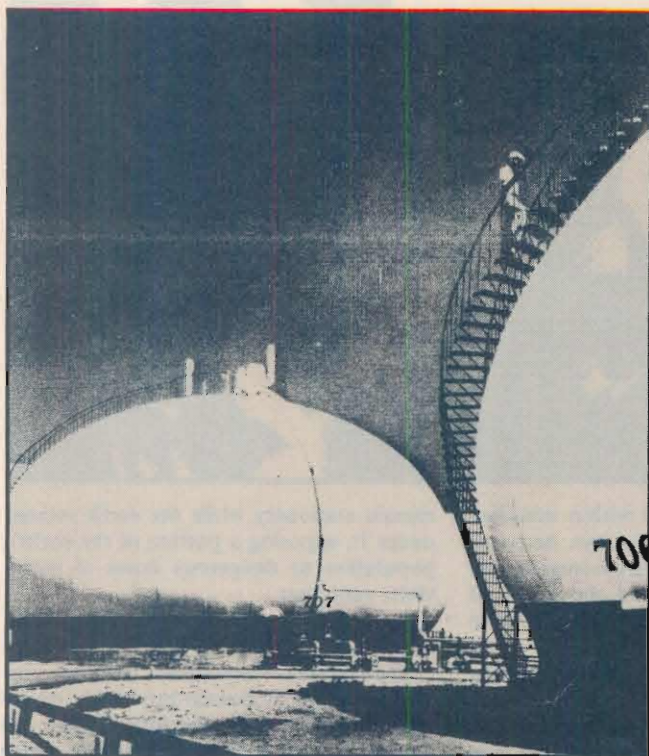
Even the heavens are vulnerable to terrorist chemicals. A Harvard University Atmospheric Sciences professor, Michael B. McElroy, wrote in June of 1975, that it was entirely feasible for a terrorist group to inject bromine gas in the upper atmosphere and punch a hole in the ozone layer. The delivery means could be an airplane, balloon, or small rocket. The hole would

remain stationary while the earth rotated under it, exposing a portion of the earth's population to dangerous doses of ultraviolet radiation.

**Bioweapons**—Biological weapons involve the use of disease-producing microorganisms such as viruses, fungi, and bacteria. They also include toxins which are the products of microbial, plant, or animal life. Bioweapons have been used by terrorists and assassins for years. Between 1978 and 1980, the Bulgarian secret service assassinated two defectors by firing from an umbrella device a tiny ball of iridium and platinum, which encased the natural toxin ricin made from the deadly castor bean poison. Other political figures such as Colonel Houari Boudemedienne of Algeria, were disposed of by the same metal ball-ricin technique. According to a report by *Clandestine Tactics and Technology*, an intelligence publication of the International Association of Chiefs of Police, the metal-ball assassination technique is a sophisticated Soviet KGB-GRU biological weapons system which is now being utilized by Warsaw Pact secret services and is being made available to selected terrorist groups throughout the world.

If access to chemicals to manufacture nerve agents is easy, access to biological supplies is ridiculously simple. They can be supplied by a sponsoring state in tiny vials in diplomatic pouches, stolen from a research institution or medical school, or even acquired on the open market. A well-known and respectable firearms newspaper published a classified advertisement for ricin. Two individuals, posing as members of a research firm, discovered the ease of purchasing dangerous tetanus and botulism cultures from a renowned bioculture supply house on the East Coast. By using counterfeit business cards, they were able to buy—over the counter—quantities of the virulent cultures.





<b>Bacterial:</b>	Diphtheria	
	Plague (pneumonic and bubonic)	Cholera
	Melioidosis	Brucellosis
	Anthrax	Staphylococcal food-poisoning toxin
	Glanders	Typhoid
	Shigellosis	Tularemia
	C. Botulinum	Tuberculosis
<b>Viral:</b>	Influenza	Smallpox
	Dengue	Yellow fever
	Infectious hepatitis	Psittacosis
	Encephalitides (EEE, SLE, WEE, JE)	
<b>Fungal:</b>	Blastomycosis	Nocardiosis
	Coccidioidomycosis	Histoplasmosis
<b>Protozoal:</b>	Malaria	Amoebic Dysentery
<b>Rickettsial:</b>	Q-fever	Typhus
	Rocky Mountain	
	Spotted Fever	

A limited listing of agents of human infection and disease which might be disseminated by terrorist acts.

LEFT — Storage facilities for chlorine and other deadly chemicals are vulnerable to sabotage.

Biological toxins and agents are easy to produce. A terrorist group can literally "brew up a batch" in the kitchen. The supplies needed can be as little as a flat whiskey bottle, eggs or chicken soup, and an available source of seed culture such as corn, which is an excellent source of tricothecene mycotoxins, the biological weapon used by the Soviet Union against the Afghan freedom fighters. Aflatoxin, produced from peanuts, is a potent cancer-producing toxin. Clostridium botulinum produces the deadly botulinum toxin, and is found everywhere in the soil.

Bacteriological warfare has four basic steps; inoculation, incubation, harvesting, and dispersal. Step one involves the placing of the microorganism into a suitable medium. The growth medium for bacteria could be chicken soup or even eggs. The incubation period depends upon the correct temperature range, but this can be assured by a homemade storage container made of plywood, heated with lightbulbs.

The harvesting phase might be the most difficult for the novice. He could contaminate himself while trying to separate the organism "crop" from the growing medium.

The final stage is dispersal, and for this phase, an agent, or "vector" is needed to carry the infectious material to the target. The choice of vector depends upon the nature of the organisms to be distributed. Such vectors are usually food, animals, air, water, or human beings themselves.

Bioweapons, like chemical weapons, can

be inserted into a large building's or enclosed stadium's centralized water or ventilation system. The humans that work in such a place can be infected by food served in the cafeteria or the humans themselves can be the vectors, bringing the microorganism with them as they report for work.

There are other dissemination choices for the biological agents in either liquid or dry form. These might include explosives or aerosol sprays. The Israeli manufactured Mark V hand-held tear gas projector could be filled with a biological agent and sprayed from a passing vehicle.

The Irish Republican Army developed a multi-tubed mortar, mounted on a flatbed truck which fired conventional explosives against the headquarters of the Royal Ulster Constabulary. The mortar system was almost identical to a World War 1 weapon called the Livens system, a chemical mortar used during the "war to end all wars" to disseminate mustard and phosgene gas. If the IRA had used this remarkable weapon to fire biological agents instead of conventional explosives, the results might have been a devastating outbreak of disease in Northern Ireland.

Another possible vector has already been demonstrated in the recent contamination of Tylenol capsules and other, over-the-counter drugs. Microorganisms can be injected into the plastic bottles of nasal sprays, plastic containers of headache remedies, and other soft bottles. How many customers look for needle holes in

products in supermarkets or discount stores before making purchases?

Just how deadly are some of these biological agents? Well, the botulinum toxin is one of the most deadly substances known to science. It has been estimated by American biological warfare experts at Fort Detrick, Maryland—the U.S. Biological Weapons Center—that seven ounces of botulinum toxin, if efficiently dispersed, would kill the entire human population on earth. And yet, clostridium botulinum, the bacillus that produces this deadly toxin, can be purchased from several biological culture labs for as little as \$35.00. All one has to do is order the culture on letterhead stationery which represents a microbiology department of a university, or a biological research lab.

**Nuclear Nightmare**—A chemical or biological attack might conceivably be concealed or explained away by a government not willing to cave into terrorist pressure. A nuclear blast, however, cannot be excused as a natural outbreak of disease or as casualties caused by a Bophal-type disaster.

The public in the Western world has long been lulled into the belief that the technology of nuclear weapons is so complex and top-secret that only a Manhattan Project-type approach can construct one. For hydrogen weapons, this may be true, but atomic bombs of the Hiroshima and Nagasaki variety are relatively simple.

The technical data that the World War



II Manhattan Project worked so hard to amass and apply to an atomic weapons system is now basic knowledge. According to Lowell Ponte, an expert on bizarre terrorist weaponry, a few publications are all that a good physicist would have to have in order to design his bargain-basement A-bomb.

These publications are the result of the distilled wisdom of the Manhattan Project and can be obtained in government publication centers or from the Library of Congress.

And what about fissionable materials such as plutonium or uranium; is it so tightly controlled by government agencies? Hardly. Most atomic reactors built to generate electricity create plutonium as a by-product. It has been estimated by the Atomic Support Agency in the U.S. Defense Department that security is inadequate, in many cases, in the handling and transporting of nuclear materials, and that plutonium has been stolen to the degree that hundreds of clandestine A-bombs could be constructed from the missing material. A 12-man terrorist commando raid on a nuclear reactor could obtain all the plutonium needed to complete an A-weapon, or plutonium could be hijacked during shipment.

Again, according to Lowell Ponte, once enough of the fissionable material had been collected for critical mass (the mass at which the chain reaction begins) the weapon could be constructed. A plutonium bomb is five kilograms of plutonium divided into two sub-critical parts. These parts are kept separated until they are imploded (slammed together) by a conventional explosive. When forced together into one critical mass, the atoms simultaneously fission, releasing massive amounts of energy in the process.

But can it really be done? In 1977, a 22 year old Harvard student with only one year of college-level physics, designed a series of atomic weapons, using sources available to the public. Government scientists testified, after examining the designs, that the bombs were, indeed, workable and, if one were actually built and detonated, it could take out the center of New York City.

In November, 1979, the *Progressive*, a left-wing magazine, published an article detailing the fabrication of an A-bomb. The U.S. government thought it was dangerous enough to bar from distribution, but a Federal court upheld the magazine's First Amendment rights. Again, government scientists agreed that the *Progressive* article included a great deal of detailed information on A-bomb construction.

A workable homemade A-bomb, weighing no more than a few thousand pounds, can be delivered by being placed inside of a Volkswagen van, driven and parked a few



ABOVE — A terrorist of the future?

LEFT — Soviet Spetsnaz forces have the mission of infiltrating U.S. territory and linking up with domestic terrorist units.



blocks from the White House, or perhaps flown by private plane. Thirty miles from target, the pilot would activate the timing mechanism—set the plane on automatic pilot, and bail out.

The West, and the United States in particular, face a new and grave threat from a sinister Soviet strike force known as the Voyska Spetsial Nogo Naznachenniya—acronym SPETSNAZ, or special purpose forces. Many Spetsnaz agents are already in place in the West and one of their many missions is maintaining liaison, and conducting operations with selected local terrorist groups. It is entirely plausible that mass-casualty weapons would be infiltrated in separate elements by Spetsnaz agents posing as tourists or visiting athletes or brought into the U.S. in complete form via airborne or waterborne methods. Spetsnaz advisors have trained Warsaw Pact special purpose forces as well as Cuba's Tropas Especiales (special troops) who have also been tasked with the mission of working with terrorists or guerrillas in the United States or elsewhere in the Western Hemisphere.

Given the sophistication of today's micro-electronics, Spetsnaz-delivered mini-nukes could be small enough to fit into a large suitcase. A nuclear weapon of one tenth of a kiloton (1/20th of the Hiroshima size) could take out the World Trade Center in New York City and kill over 200,000 people.

The Soviet Union is known to be the world's largest producer of toxic chemicals and virulent microorganisms slated for biological warfare. The delivery of chemical and biological weapons by Spetsnaz teams to domestic terrorists to be used

during a limited or general war is a definite possibility. Spetsnaz sleeper agents may, in fact, already have complete chemical, biological, and even nuclear arsenals hidden in the basements of suburban homes around the country, ready to share with their terrorist allies when the command is given.

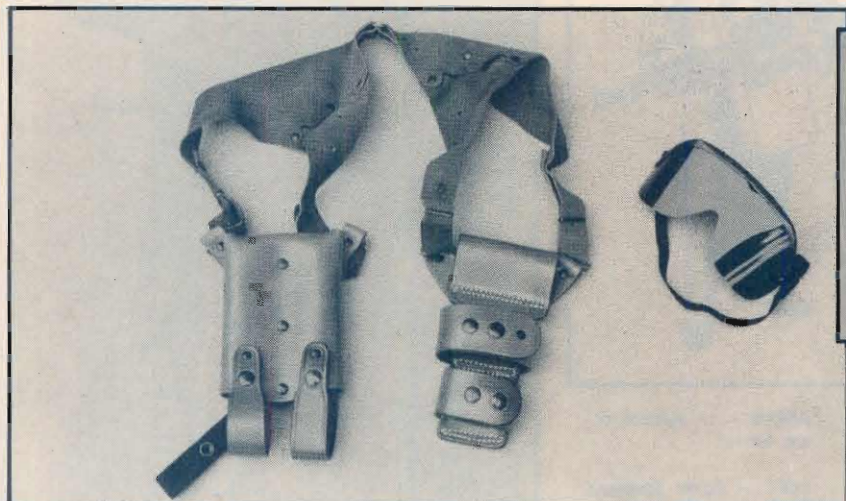
**Crisis Government**—In November, 1977, Robert H. Kupperman, head of President Carter's Cabinet Committee to Combat Terrorism, reported to the committee that a federal crisis management group be established to deal with terrorist-instigated megadeath attacks. This, and other suggestions from the committee, were based on a CIA report that individual terrorist groups already have the capacity—and the will—to manufacture, acquire, and use weapons or agents of mass destruction. The committee recommended the study of the possibility of establishing a "constitutional crisis" government if such weapons are threatened or used. This would give the president and the executive branch of government near dictatorial powers to deal with the threat.

The temptation by the United States, and other Western nations to turn into a national security state is great when presented with such an awesome challenge as terrorist mass casualty weapons. If this happens, then the terrorists have won a tremendous victory by forcing the government to adopt authoritarian means.

But the other option may be the destruction of some of our major population centers and the creation of chemical disasters and terrorist-imposed plagues. It's a Catch-22 situation. ●



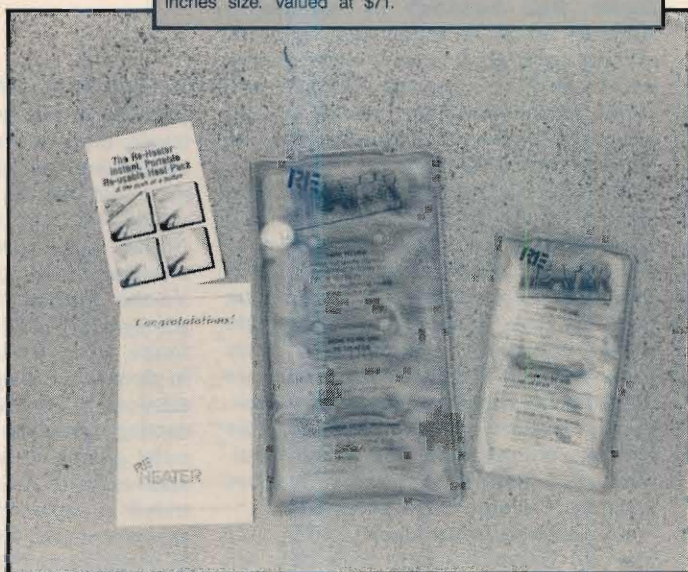
# ASG 1987 Giveaway No.2



Prize No. 4, UZI Rig and Low-Light Simulator from DeSantis Holster & Leather Goods, Dept. ASG, 149 Denton Ave., New Hyde Park, NY 11040; (516) 354-8000. Originally designed for government agencies only use, the UZI rig is now available to both government and civilian markets. It dispenses with the usual encumbrances and provides sure, swift action. For UZI and Mini-UZI SMGs and semiautos. Valued at \$90. The Low-Light Simulator transforms broad daylight into the shadowy, darkened conditions so often encountered by police in gunfights with felons. Excellent training device for these conditions. Valued at \$10.

Fill out the accompanying coupon, and include payment with subscription orders or current subscription extensions. All ASG 1987 Giveaway No. 2 entries should be printed or typewritten on the official coupon, or a reasonable facsimile from this magazine. It is not necessary to clip the official coupon from this magazine. A facsimile entry is acceptable and valid, as long as it contains information required with the subscription or extension order/entry form. The ASG Giveaway is open to any resident of the United States. Federal law requires that only U.S. citizens are eligible to receive a firearm prize. The prize winner must not be legally restricted from receiving or possessing a firearm. This contest offer is void where prohibited by law. Employees of McMullen Publishing and its subsidiaries or subordinate agencies, and members of their immediate families, are not eligible to enter the contest. There is a **LIMIT OF ONE ENTRY PER PERSON** for this contest. Duplicate and/or multiple-copy entries, when detected, will be disqualified and discarded. The prize winner will be selected in a random drawing of the coupons submitted for this contest. The drawing will be conducted at 2 p.m. Dec. 15, 1987. Entries received after Dec. 14, 1987 at 4 p.m. will be invalidated and discarded, though subscription orders will be honored by McMullen Publishing. The prize winner will be notified by telephone and/or mail within one week of the drawing. This firearm prize winner will be required to arrange with a local federally licensed firearms dealer to accept delivery of the prize. The winner will be required by the firearms dealer accepting the prize to fill out all necessary federal, state and/or local firearm purchase and/or transfer forms. To receive this prize, the winner must meet **ALL** federal, state and/or local requirements for firearms ownership. The winner must be 18 years of age or older. **NO EXCEPTIONS.**

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Prize No. 1 M1A rifle in .308 Win. caliber with camouflage fiberglass stock from Springfield Armory, Dept. ASG, 420 West Main Street, Geneseo, IL 61254; (309) 944-5631. This prize will be given with the items shown here, including a no-gunsmithing scope mount from B-Square, Dept. ASG, P.O. Box 11281, Ft. Worth, TX 76109; (817) 923-0964. Additionally, the prize winner will receive a camouflage carrying case and bayonet from Springfield Armory. Total prize valued at more than \$900.



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**C**HICAGO: Blackstone Rangers, Latin Kings, Spanish Saints, Burnside Bums, The Gaylords, The Players, Buntown Gents, Spanish Cobras, Eastside Disciples, 95th Street Gents, Latin Eagles, Harrison Gents, Hunky Avengers, Pullman Poorboys, El Rukens, The Enterprise, Vice Lords, Junior Vandels, Midget Navahoes, The Dirty Dozen.

**NEW YORK:** Reapers, Royal Javelins, Peacemakers, Young Lords, Daggers, Seven Immortals, Spanish Kings, Black Spades, Young Sinners, Enchanters, Dragons, Seminoles, Spartican Army, Savage Nomads.

**PHILADELPHIA:** 12th and Poplar Streeters, Centours, Pagans, Tops and Bottoms, Morroccos.

**OAKLAND:** Black Panthers.

Only a few names, only a few places.

There isn't a single city in America that



Juvenile Delinquents:

# Street Gangs

*There isn't a single city in America that does not have gangs . . .*

By William J. Conti

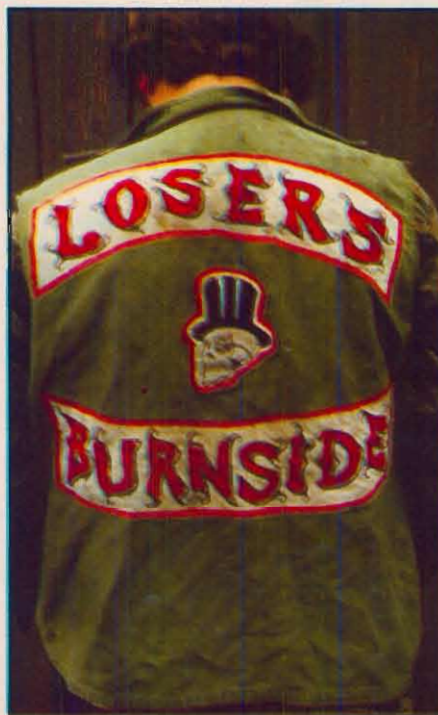
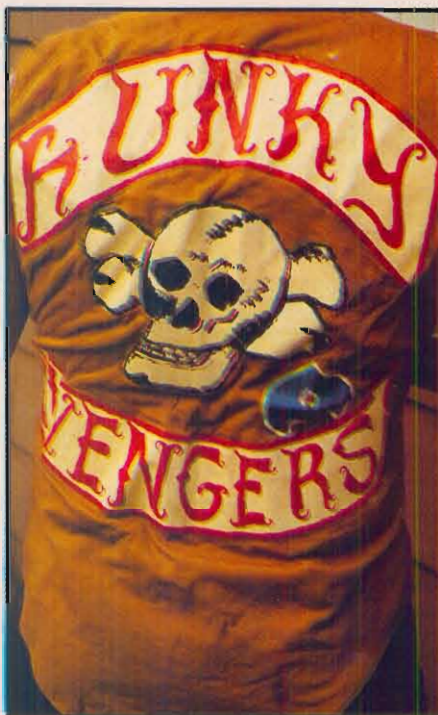
does not, reluctantly in most cases, hold claim to a street gang. If there is one gang, undoubtedly there is another, just around the corner, literally.

Some think of street gangs in the romantic glow of *West Side Story*, with the endless days of corner pranks, and hot nights of choreographed "rumbles." Where young warriors tested their courage on back-alley battlefields, then retired to the tender arms of their loving maidens.

That sort of journalistic rhetoric paints a warm, sincere picture of the struggling urban adolescent trying to find himself in a one-sided world. But, to the American populace, who must live and survive among street gangs, these youths are tough, weapon-carrying killers, and 14-year-old street walkers, who could give the most hardened callgirl lessons.

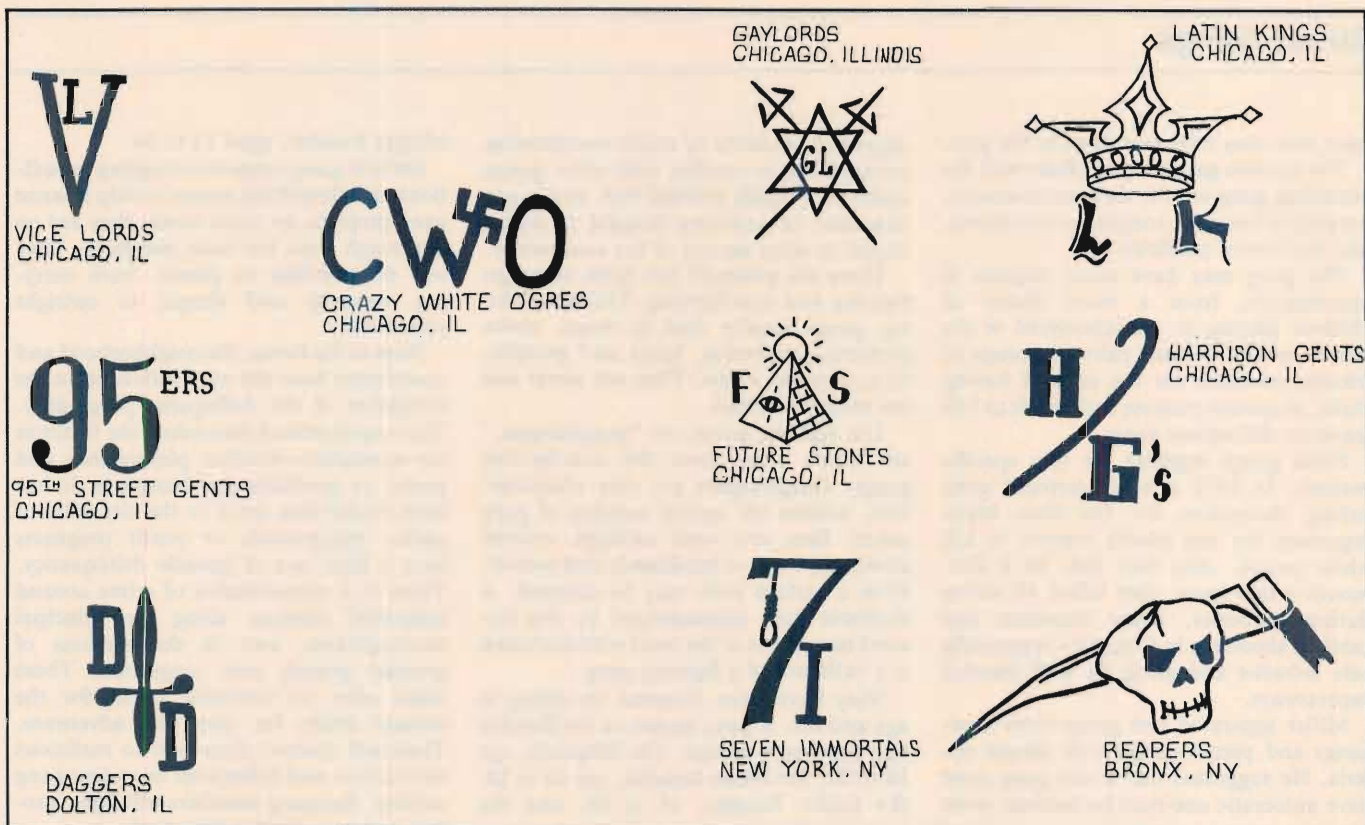
Each generation tends to view the street gang in a different light, brought on by particular contemporary conditions. Gangs in the early 1900s were attributed to the cultural dislocation and community disorganization accompanying mass immigration. In the 1930s, to the enforced idleness and economic pressures produced by the Great Depression. In the 1950s, to the emotional disturbance of parents and children caused by the increased stresses and tensions of modern life.

Today, the existence of gangs are widely attributed to a range of social injustices, such as race discrimination, job opportunities, education, resentment over the unequal distribution of wealth and privileges, and the ineffective policies of service agencies, such as schools and the



Clothing and emblems of Chicago area gangs: Brigands, King's Crown's, Hunky Avengers, and Losers.





Logos of some Chicago and New York street gangs.

police.

Frederick Thrasher, an authority on street gangs, believed that gangs originate naturally during the adolescent years from spontaneous play groups. The major factor that transforms a play group into a gang is the conflict with other groups. As a result of the conflict, it becomes mutually beneficial for individuals to band together in the form of a gang to protect themselves, and to satisfy needs which their environment and families cannot.

Walter Miller, gang theorist, proposed that delinquent behavior may not necessarily be a reaction to strain or a rebellion against middle-class institutions, but simply behavior that is contrary to the middle-class standards because of different learned patterns of conduct acquired from their lower-class culture. Gang members, more often than not, have parents who lean toward legal conformity although the pressures of life and the lower-class culture may cause them to short-cut the corners of honesty and sobriety.

Says Dennis Rosenbaum, a social psychologist at Northwestern University, "The inner city has become an environment where, if you steal a bike and come home, your mother doesn't ask any questions because she knows she could never afford one for you."

He went on, "You're reinforced and condoned for criminal behavior. They see signs of incivility, signs of disorder around them—garbage and litter, bars on the windows, rats. Nobody seems to respect each other. We're talking about people

who live in a different world."

Miller further discussed the effects female-based households in lower-class families have on the adolescent boy's sexual identity. The street gang provides the boy with an opportunity to act tough, become involved in other masculine activities, and reject the female orientation that has been the greater part of his life.

Many gang members' delinquent activities revolve around their desire to become a "real man." They believe the gang will help them up the ladder of manhood. The excitement and free life of the streets and the gratification received from gang activity give greater returns than the impersonal awards of conforming to the law or abstract principles and values of society.

Some observers of juvenile behavior in high-delinquency areas stress the point that many young people here feel deprived and are lacking in self esteem. The low socioeconomic status of their families seems to block their opportunities for success. The street corner gang offers a means of achieving status.

Idleness through joblessness creates a dangerous aberration in the ghetto that can quickly transform life into death, and forces everything else to adapt to it.

New York and Chicago have each lost more than 300,000 manufacturing jobs since 1948, more than half of them after 1967. Another 100,000 jobs in wholesale and retail trade in Chicago were lost in the same period.

To briefly sum up reasons for gangs, we can say gangs bring a sense of power, or an

escape from a sense of powerlessness. Gangs bring recognition. No one wants to be nobody, no one wants to be poor; no one wants to live forever amid the hopelessness of the ghetto. As long as these conditions exist, the street gang will continue to exist.

**Definition**—What is a gang? James Haskins, author of *Street Gangs: Yesterday and Today*, defined the gang as a unified group which remains together during peaceful times as well as during times of conflict, has a recognized leader and under leaders, and shows this unity through the wearing of the same clothing, or speaking a special language. And its activities are either criminal or somehow threatening to the larger society.

A gang may vary as to membership, type of leaders, mode of organization, interests and activities, and finally as to its status in the community. All of these differences give to every gang its own peculiar character.

There are several characteristics of gangs today that differ from those of greater and socialite gangs of the 1950s. Today's member is much younger, some as young as 10 years old. The nationality of the gang membership is now primarily black and Hispanic as opposed to Italian and Irish of 50 years ago. Drugs play an important role in gang behavior, both in "getting high" and "getting money." The days of large-scale, well-organized street brawling are just about gone. Firearms are more readily available and more commonly



## Street Gangs

used than they have ever been in the past.

The modern gang tends to share with the preceding gang era the slum environment, worship of bravado, toughness, cleverness, and the love of publicity.

The gang may have many degrees of organization, from a loose cluster of children playing in the schoolyard or the street, to well defined pairs or groups of friends, to clubs for the sake of having clubs, to special-purpose clubs such as ball teams or delinquent gangs.

Some gangs organize for very specific reasons. In 1972 a black terrorist gang calling themselves the Du Mau Maus organized for one deadly reason; to kill white people. And they did. In a five-month crime spree, they killed 10 whites during robberies, home invasions and random shootings in Chicago's supposedly safe suburbs and along its well traveled expressways.

Miller separated real gangs from near-gangs and pseudo-gangs with simple criteria. He suggested that a real gang must have autocratic one-man leadership, some

degree of solidarity or stable membership, involvement in conflict with other gangs, claim to a rigidly defined turf, and a participation in activities thought to pose a threat to other sectors of the community.

There are generally two types of gangs; fighting and non-fighting. The non-fighting gangs usually deal in drugs, stolen property, protection, loans and prostitution, to name a few. They are secret and are money oriented.

The fighting gangs, or "gangbangers," are much apart from the non-fighting gangs. Gangbangers are very characteristic, besides the typical wearing of gang colors, they may wear earrings, colored shoelaces, wrist or headbands and tattoos. Even a certain walk may be adopted. A rhythmic gait, characterized by the forward movement of the head with each step is a hallmark of a fighting gang.

They have strict divisions according to age and sex. A gang known as the Bandits had four male groups: The Brigands, age 18 to 21; the Senior Bandits, age 16 to 18; the Junior Bandits, 14 to 16, and the

Midget Bandits, aged 12 to 14.

Girls in gangs organize mugging expeditions and shoplifting sprees to help finance gang projects. In many cases, they are no less tough than the male members. They will do anything to please, from carrying weapons and drugs, to outright promiscuity.

Next to the home, the neighborhood and community have the most influence on the formation of the delinquent personality. The neighborhood determines the facilities for recreation—whether playgrounds and parks, or poolhalls and hangouts. It has been found that areas in the city without parks, playgrounds or youth programs have a high rate of juvenile delinquency. There is a concentration of crime around industrial districts, along the principal thoroughfares, and in the sections of greatest poverty and congestion. These areas offer no favorable outlet for the normal desire for play and adventure. Thwarted desires often lead to malicious destruction and delinquent or violent gang activity. But gang members will fight, protect and even die for their turf.

Turfs and territories are usually identified by buildings and sidewalks painted with the club's name and logo or emblem. The gang's boundaries are clearly marked off, for all gangs to recognize, and usually have a centrally located headquarters.

Gangs of the 1940s and 1950s used a certain corner or grocery store, or even a candy shop as their headquarters. Today's gangs generally prefer more private headquarters. Although most members live at home, they spend as little time as possible there. Many gangs rent tenement basements or apartments, often without many utilities. These headquarters represent a form of wealth for the gang, not to mention a haven from the streets and society. Rent payments usually come from dues or enterprising activities.

To become a member of a neighborhood gang, the boy or girl must show a willingness to conform to the group's particular behavior traits. If a member shows an unwillingness to conform, he will probably be snubbed or expelled. If each member behaved differently, there would be nothing to hold the group together. Group existence depends on members having something in common.

The pull toward loyalty to the gang may override the awareness of the values of the larger society. The gang is a group bound by emotional ties. The immediate personal rewards of conforming to this intimate group's values are greater than the impersonal awards of conforming to law or abstract principles of ethics.

The gang has its set of titles and labels by which it knows the youth and he knows himself. The gang and members are quick to seize any idiosyncrasy, character trait,



Gang graffiti in Calumet Park Beach in Chicago's Southside.



## Street Gangs



Chicago's Southside Burns campaign patches. Each one stands for a victory over a rival gang.

skill, or whatever, and to treat the member in terms of this trait. The stereotype which the gang holds of the child is often expressed in his nickname: Fatso, Hookman, Skinny, Brain, Lefty, Four-eyes, Pizza-face, Blaster, and so on.

The total frankness of gang members often startles adults. Most members wear their nicknames proudly, even abusive ones, as a badge of their belonging, of having an identity in the group. Any recognition, even contempt or mockery, is preferable to being ignored. As pointed out earlier, no one wants to be nobody. A gang member would rather have the gang persecute him than act as if he didn't exist.

The gang member is aggressive and hostile to groups other than his own, especially other gangs. He is adjusted to his own gang and its culture, but unadjusted to conventional social life. But to leave the warmth and friendship of the gang would often mean both social and emotional isolation for a boy.

The activities of members are typical of all gang members. The boys are expected to do a certain amount of street fighting and drinking to prove their manliness. The members behave in ways sanctioned by the culture they belong to, and need feel absolutely no guilt. To question the norms of the gang would be far more likely to make a member feel guilty than almost any delinquent act he might perform.

Much of the "rumble" days are gone. Guns decide arguments quicker, and more deadly than fists and chains. Gang wars today are usually fought like guerrilla warfare, with sniping from rooftops, or shots from speeding cars. They are also much more difficult for the police to anticipate and stop than the old-style rumbles.

Today's gang leaders have become expert at taking the practical art of hustling, expanding its scale, and using it on government agencies, foundations, and business firms to promote the grants so important to their continued operations

and power. Depending on the listener and the situation, they can be sweet talking, demanding, inspirational, misleading, patriotic, or abrasive.

Courage and fighting ability have traditionally been the qualities most respected by the gangs, and gang leaders must be courageous and good fighters in order to retain their position. But today, leaders must also be intelligent and good administrators.

In the morning hours, a gang leader may be counting the money in the gang's treasury, in the afternoon he may be rapping to the police about an uneasy truce, and by night he may be planning to "take out a hook," slang for killing a rival gang member.

Each day he must move from crisis to crisis, checking out rumors, squelching trouble, and securing protection for his members and turf.

Parks and playgrounds are no solutions in themselves against juvenile delinquency. There is something about an unsupervised playground that actually seems to invite vandalism.

A new approach to youth gangs by some gang workers is not to make an effort to break up these gangs, since going around in groups is an essential part of the growing up process. Workers have organized the gangs into clubs, either athletic, social or special interest, helped them find places to hold regular meetings, dances and other socially accepted activities. Boston gang workers have had much success with this approach.

It should be noted that the gang spirit does not necessarily die out with childhood but may extend well into adulthood. Military units often have gang-like qualities, as do adult fraternal organizations, lodges, and associations, especially those that live on rules and rituals, with content left largely undefined.

Street gang members can be reached and will respond to sympathy, acceptance, affection, and understanding when approached by adults who possess those characteristics and reach out to them on their own level. But too many adult sponsored programs or clubs wallow in the fact of the organization instead of any actual goals. The membership is bored and empty after the opening ceremonies are over.

Part of the trouble is that adults don't trust young people to be able to manage their own free time. So they create a batch of empty, time consuming, expensive programs and projects, mostly to please themselves. The adults of today who are involved in youth programs have to be more creative today and tomorrow than they were yesterday, if not, the child would be just as well off watching reruns of "Leave It To Beaver." ●



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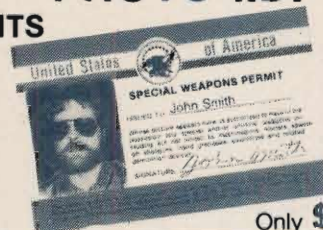
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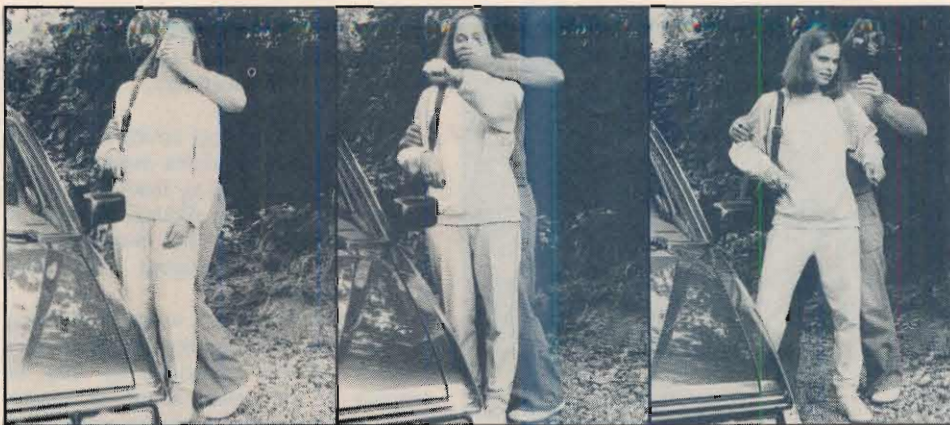
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## AD INDEX

Advanced Security Products	28
Assault Systems	35
Atlanta Cutlery	13
B-Square	50
B.M.F. Activator, Inc.	37
Blackjack Knives	37
Blowgun World, Inc.	71
Brigade Quartermasters	39, 40, 41, 42
Brigade Security Forces	71
Butokukai	53
China Diesel Imports	71
Corbin Manufacturing And Supply, Inc.	49
Crown Publishers, Inc.	71
Custom Wheel Industries	2, 3, 4, 5
Cutlery Shoppe, The	51
David De-Val Skelton Keys	67
Delta Press	47
Desert Publications	30, 31
Dutchman, The	9, 68
Dynamit Nobel of America	7
Edge Company, The	34
F.I.E.	55
Feather Industries	71
First Impressions, Inc.	30
Foothills Fastprint Photo	34
Frank's Survival Center	46
Great Lakes Distributing	51
I.N.C.O.	51
Johnny Mac's Factory Outlet	49, 55
LRRP Security Service, Inc.	71
Midwest Sport Distributing	67
Nuclear & Personal Defense	11
Nuclear Research	30
Nuclear Video	30
Paladin Press	28
PHL Corporation	43
Phoenix Systems, Inc.	71
Provisions Unlimited	27
R.P. Knives	25
Ready Reserve Foods	71
Sierra Supply	26
Smoky Mountain Knife Works	50
Steve Arnold's Gun Room	46
Surplus Central	34
Survival Book	12
Survival Center, The	29
Survival Targets	27
Survival, Inc.	71
The Gun Parts Corporation	71
U.S. Cavalry	71
Worldwide Publishing Company	71
Yellowstone Basin Properties	21
Your Supply Depot Limited	21

## Attack From Behind

(Continued from page 37)



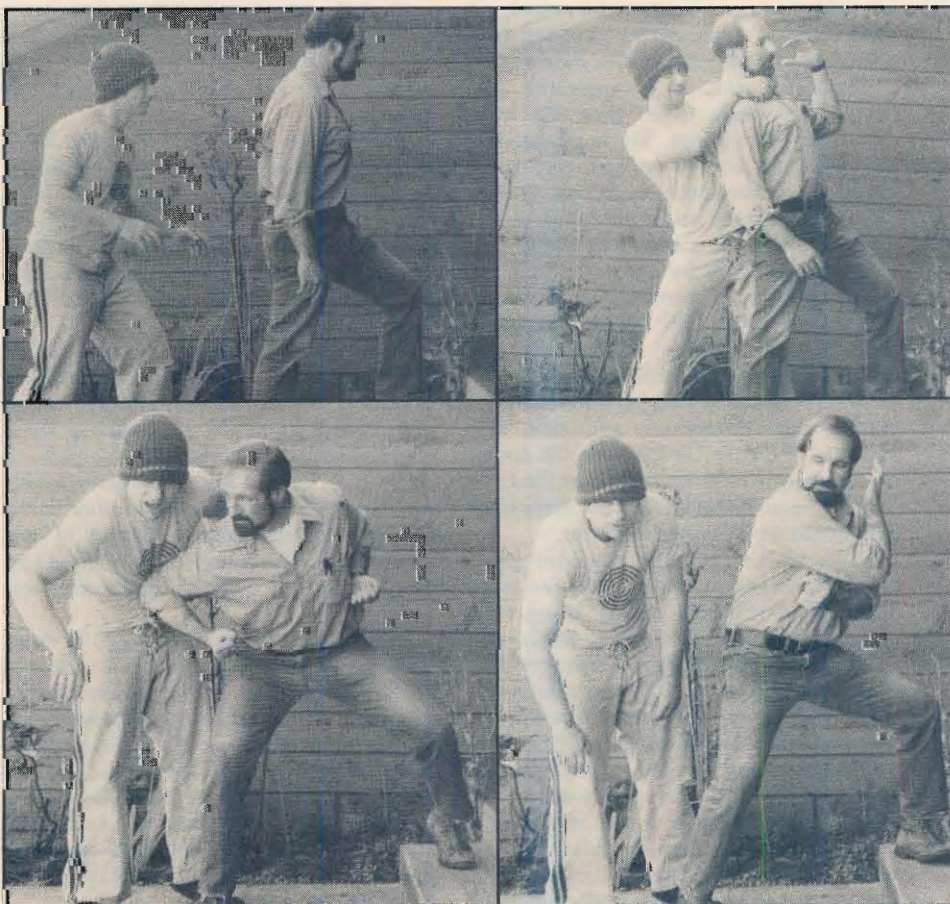
Rapist restraint defense: Placing one hand over the victim's mouth and nose while grabbing her right arm, the attacker prepares to drag her off. Defender cocks her right arm and drives an elbow into the attacker's side (repeatedly if necessary), then, leaning forward for support, victim raises her left leg and kicks back and the attacker's kneecap/shins, and follows up with repeated stomps on the insteps and elbow smashes to his head.

attack.

"Since each assault will be unique," Steiner explains, "there's no point trying to teach separate sequences for every conceivable type of rear attack. Many schools try to do just that, which requires the defender to memorize several types of defense for each attack variation. But when under attack, you've got to respond reflexively; if you have to stop to think

about which sequence to apply for a specific variation of bear hug, you won't have a chance. Combato defenses are versatile and simple, so that they can be instantly adapted to fit the situation at hand. It's much better to master one effective defense that's become instinctive, than to memorize several that you've got to think about before applying."

In Combato, students are taught to





## Attack From Behind



respond to attacks from behind with "overkill." Instead of merely trying to gain release so you can face the attacker, students are trained to immediately attack the attacker and disable him to end the confrontation. Defenders apply a flurry of techniques and keep following them up until the assailant is down and out or until escape is possible. Sometimes the same technique, such as a shin stomp, will be

applied over and over against the same target until the defender is released.

"Mixing up techniques just for variety," warns Steiner, "is foolish when your life's at stake. If an assailant's eyes are readily accessible, gouge and stab them repeatedly! If his kidneys are open, deliver several elbow smashes until he goes down. Attack his weakest points with your strongest weapons, and *keep on attacking them!*"

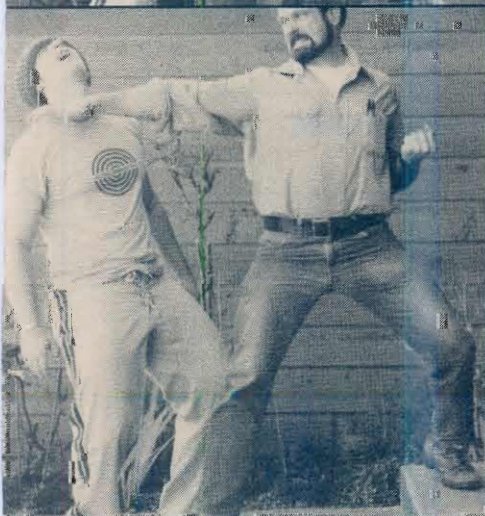
Holds, locks, and throws are not used as defenses against rear attacks in Combato. They are almost impossible to apply against stronger or intoxicated attackers who may not be deterred by pain locks or "comealong" holds. Even if you do momentarily incapacitate an attacker with some sort of hold, what do you do with them then? Wait for a cop, or hope that he won't continue the attack if you let him go? In Combato, students don't stop their defense

simply because the attacker lets go. They continue to attack their assailants until they're sure he's unable to offer any further threat. "There's no such thing," explains Steiner, "as 'over defending' yourself. Anyone who'd launch a violent, surprise attack from the rear deserves your wrath, not your sympathy. Whether or not he dies as a result of your defense should not concern you, so long as *you survive!*"

The following sequences illustrate basic Combato defenses against four of the most common types of rear assault: the rear bear hug, the headlock, mugger's choke, and rapist's restraint. In a future pictorial, we will feature Combato defenses against some of the more lethal types of rear assault: the Full Nelson, Japanese Stranglehold, restraint with a knife to the throat, and held from the rear with a handgun. ●



**Mugger's hold defense:** Mugger approaches silently from rear. As choke hold is applied, attacker begins to pull victim backward off balance. Defender must instinctively jab toward attacker's eyes and face while cocking the right arm for an elbow smash to the solar plexus. With attacker gasping for breath, defender delivers handaxe strikes to the throat and neck.





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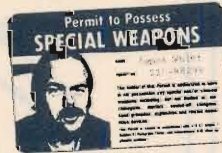
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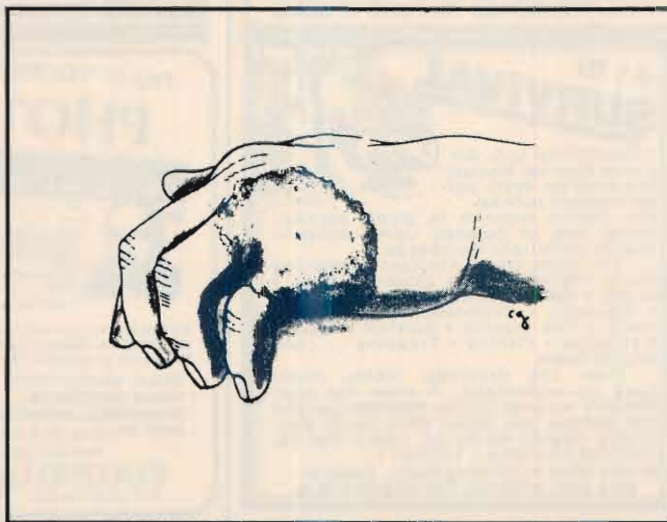
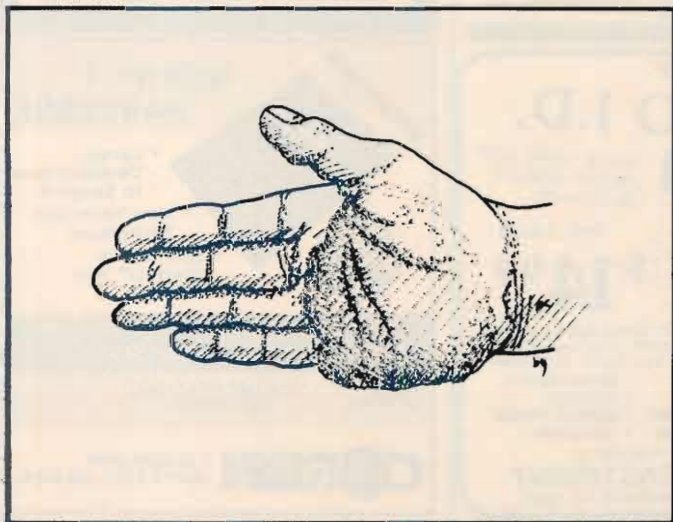


Deer, Pigs, Fish, Etc.:

# Game Handler's Disease

*You may contract this infection by handling game with an injured hand . . .*

By Jim Meuninck and William Forgey, M.D.



Typical symptoms of fish handler's infection are a purplish red inflammation with defined borders occurring about two days after exposure.

**I**MAGINE a survival situation where everything goes smoothly—for a few days, anyway . . . C'mon, nothing lasts forever!

On Monday, you rig a plunge-trap from some chicken fence, metal tubing, and a pole. Trapping goes smoothly. You process the fish, eat the heart and liver as a vitamin A snack, and then soak the fillets overnight in salt water (see salt dried fish recipe). Only one minor calamity, the dorsal spine of a rambunctious bass stabbed you deep in the palm of the hand. Some pain, nothing more.

On Tuesday, luck continues. You bag a deer with a crossbow. But, while dragging the beast from the briar, you scratch your arms and hands severely. The wounds are superficial. No need to tend to them now, there's a buck to field dress, right! You debone the meat, salt it, and begin the drying process.

On Wednesday, your luck changes. The spine punctured hand—raked by briar—is puffed up, purplish. It burns and itches.

On Thursday, the hand is useless. Good thing you have the wild meat, a decent shelter, and ample wood for the fire—survival is twice as hard single handed. As you sit out the dance, let's backtrack and discover what happened.

The infected hand is cursed with "fish handler's disease"—sometimes called,

"swine handler's disease" or "butcher's disease"—caused by a bacteria, *Erysipelothrix insidiosus*. You may have contracted this microscopic beastly when the dorsal fin stabbed your palm. Or, perhaps, through the superficial briar scratches while butchering the deer. Either way, the infected hand becomes raised, purplish red. It itches and burns. The border of the rash is well defined. Left alone the infection will puff up around the wound and inhibit use of the hand. The infection, although limited in size, may disable the hand for two or three weeks. And, rarely, may result in arthritis or inflammation of the tissue lining the heart (endocarditis).

**TREATMENT:** If there is a medical clinic nearby, you could have a physician aspirate a needle full of fluid from the advancing edge of the inflammation. A simple test will probably yield *E. rhusiopathiae* or *E. insidiosus*. The culprit requires a dose of Benzathine penicillin in the buttocks, or seven days of erythromycin orally. Of course, in the bush, or in a survival situation you may not have the luxury of a clinic. You may have some antibiotics. But if you have nothing more than a pain killer (aspirin, ibuprofen, acetaminophen) then use what you have. The infection is self-limiting, and will disappear in a few weeks.

**AVOIDANCE:** This disease is simple to avoid. Wear gloves when cleaning fish and game. If you receive a puncture wound, pinch around it, force it to bleed, then rinse it with copious amounts of clean water. Swab the wound with a povidone iodine prep pad (available over the counter). Povidone iodine is far less irritating and destructive to tissue than other antiseptics such as, isopropyl alcohol, hydrogen peroxide, or tincture of iodine. But suppose you don't have any of the above. Then use dish soap—a very effective germ killer. What, no dish soap either? Okay, make a salt water bath from the leftover salt you used to dry the fish. Salt is a good antiseptic. Soak the wound in 110-degree salt water—a rule of thumb is to add enough salt to float a potato in water. Cover the wound with a sterile dressing or band-aid.

The bacillus of fish handler's disease has worldwide distribution. It is an animal pathogen and can infect anyone handling animal flesh with open wounds on their hands. Keep in mind, oyster shuckers and shellfish handlers are also susceptible to a similar infection.

For more information read: *The Merck Manual*, 14th edition, Merck, pp. 93-94; *Dorland's Medical Dictionary*, Sanders Press, p. 251; *Medicine For The Outdoors*, by Auerbach, Little Brown, p. 154. ●





Japanese preparing fresh-caught fish. Processing fish like this, cleaning shellfish or butchering wild game with scratches or puncture wounds on your hands or arms, are typical ways to get game handler's disease.

## Salt Drying Fish

**F**ISH may be salt dried by first soaking the flesh in salt water for 12 hours and then drying the flesh on a rack in a dry, well ventilated area. If you have nothing else to use for antiseptic, the salt water you used to soak the fish in can be used to make a hot salt water bath for soaking an infected hand.

To salt dry fish, mix non-iodized pickling salt in water until the salinity reaches a level that will float a potato. As an added safety margin, stir in another measure of salt roughly equal to 10 percent of what you have already mixed.

After soaking the fish for 12 hours in the saline bath, hang or rack the fillets in a dry, well ventilated area.

Sun drying is good, but keep insects off the flesh and don't let it get wet overnight.

A smoky fire, upwind of the racks, imparts a pleasant flavor to the fish flesh and accelerates drying. Indoors, the drying process can be coaxied along with an electric fan.



Salted fish being dried on a rack.



## Semiauto To Bolt Action:

# M1 Garand Conversion

*Just 2½ minutes from military fighting weapon to pull-bolt hunting rifle . . .*

By Jim Thompson

**T**HERE may be a tinge of insanity in it, but I'm an M1 buff who hikes with the rifle, shoots matches with it, and basically, I have no axes to grind with this moosey rifle at all . . . In fact, I'd like my match rifle to weigh about 6 or 7 ounces more.

That's me and the way I use mine. If you own an M1 as a fighting or nostalgic piece,

you might someday want to hunt with it, and you may think 11 pounds is a mite heavy to drag around in pursuit of the fierce and wily whitetail. That's why the York M1 Conversion exists.

Most any M1 weighs at least 10 pounds. Mine weighs about 11. There's a lot of stuff hanging on the rifle's bottom—gas cylinder, operating rod—and the density

of the original stocks varies, and the barrel heights even on standard G.I. units can vary as much as an ounce. Mine has an extra heavy match barrel. With the York conversion installed, the rifle with open sights can weigh just a hair over eight pounds, or with a moderate scope and the steel mount, just shy of 10.

M1 has a couple of glitches that annoy even me. First, the recoil time is very long when the rifle is fired semiautomatically. It's the mass of the operating rod and bolt flying rearward that keeps the muzzle up for so long. This recoil is not especially sharp for a military rifle in this power class, but it does keep the shooter off target for a while. The York conversion, by eliminating the moving masses, shortens the time the muzzle is in the air; this is especially important with the narrow field of a scoped rifle.

The other annoyance of which M1 is guilty is the mess and inconvenience of cleaning and lubricating the rifle, especially the need to keep the piston surface of the operating rod clean, all of which requires that the rifle be thoroughly stripped every time it's fired.

With the York Conversion, the operat-



The York conversion only hints at its military origins when the M1 is in its Bishop stock.

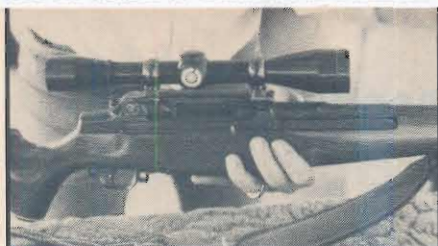


Ken Rash of York M1 Conversions test fires the converted rifle.

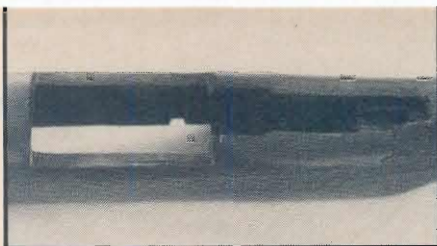
ing rod, gas cylinder, gas cylinder lock screw and plug, operating rod guide, op rod helical spring, and various other parts are not even on the rifle. The stock and handguards and of course the bands are also eliminated. So only the bore and bolt need to be cleaned after a day in the field or at the range. The Bishop-built, York-designed stock which replaces the G.I. unit is a bit lighter than the original, and much prettier.

The scope mount is a centerline unit, mounted low overbore. The one used and photographed for this article was a prototype. The production all-steel unit will be almost identical, but using Weaver-style rings. Only a screwdriver or M1 tool to remove the gas cylinder plug is necessary to tear the rifle down; then, a very much simplified kit of parts, shown in the accompanying photos, is installed, with most of the clip-related pieces remaining and in their usual places. This takes perhaps 2 to 2½ minutes if you're in no particular hurry.

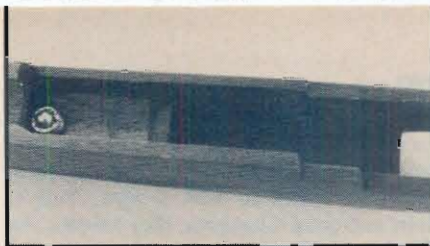




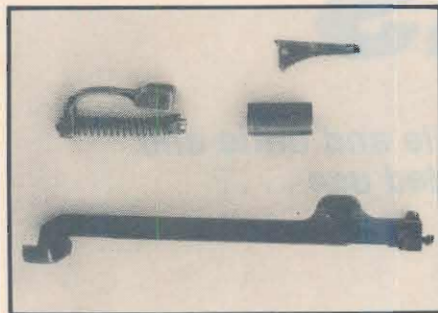
The conversion is a neat, practical unit which does not damage or destroy the M1's military or nostalgic value.



The fit of the Bishop stock is superb.



The bolt handle lock secures the bolt handle, which replaces the operating rod of the M1.



New parts necessary — other than the stock — to make the M1 a straight pull-bolt rifle.



Removal of the handguards, operating rod, gas cylinder, plug and lock before installation of the conversion stock.



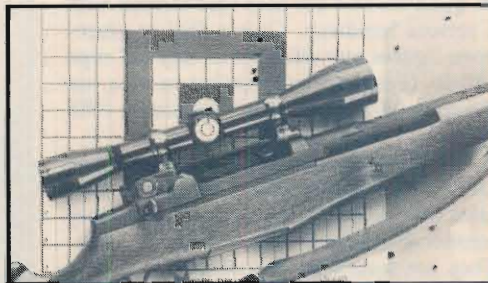
Securing bolt handle after installation of follower spring guide.



The four- and seven-round clips do not leave the rifle when empty but are removed by activating the converted rifle's clip release latch.



The York M1 Conversion scope conversion is a centerline unit which requires no modification to the rifle. Here the rear pin has been left partly out to illustrate installation.



While zeroing was not completed with this group and the author's vertical stringing was demonstrated, this group shows the consistency capable with the York M1 Conversion.

At this point, it looks like the stock, checkered and fitted with a comfy recoil pad, will sell for around \$120, ready to go. Kits including everything you need for either a scoped or open sight conversion will be less than \$230, including a 95 percent finished stock. If you want to glass bed your unit, this would be the way to go. For those who merely want to scope their M1s, the centered scope mount and the non-ejecting 7- and 4-round clips can be had, less the scope itself and rings, for \$69.95. Delivery times will run six to 10 weeks.

**The Rifle**—Norman York and Ken Rash of York M1 Conversions were kind enough to bring one of these units from their headquarters in Houston here to Mesa, Arizona, for a brief test. Note the word "brief" . . . I really had very few questions about the system once it was explained to me on the phone. M1 is a very robust rifle, and the immediate appeal of the system to me was that this conversion could do no harm and, in fact, would probably tend to tear up parts much less than the violent action of the rifle in semiautomatic mode.

My only questions from a functional point of view involved recoil and accuracy, and in fact, I wasn't even concerned with exact zero during the testing. I wanted to see a few groups and analyze the condition

of my shoulder.

And so Ken Rash got the rifle on the paper and I fired a few rather quick test groups. As a match shooter with the M1, I am accustomed to the conventional military forearm wrap with the military leather sling, and when I don't use it, I tend to string vertically . . . Force of habit. I did string vertically with the York conversion, for the configuration of the strap wouldn't allow my "security blanket" wrap. But the group ran less than 3/4-inch on the horizontal plane, so I was sure that the rifle's performance was 100 percent Garand. This was Norman's M1, a fine rifle, but a stock G.I. M1, not a National Match or accurized piece. Offhand, I rang the 300-yard gong at Rio Salado each time I shot. I was satisfied.

Accuracy with M1 is partially a function of barrel condition and fit of moving parts, but bad stock fit will show up immediately in lousy groups. So if the metal fits and the stock fits, all's well. This Bishop stock evinced superior fit and a high order of cosmetic appeal. The stock is available only from York M1 Conversions.

The recoil of the conversion is similar to a typical middleweight bolt action rifle, quick and sharp but very fast. The recoil pad is effective. There is no question of the rifle being controllable; it gets back on target quickly. Out to 500 yards, I prefer

to use the National Match style rear sight on the M1, rather than a scope. But the test rifle recovered fast enough to pick up a second shot through the scope. That is, if you don't forget that the rifle is no longer semiautomatic, which I did a couple of times.

We fired the rifle completely dry. It worked, but felt a little rough. The bolt handle/op rod groove should've received a little lubricant. This is especially true when the bolt reaches its first cam point.

The centerline scope mount is a sturdy unit, braced on the receiver front, secured by a large pin through the rear sight ferrule. The prototype we used showed some of the marks of its fabrication, but production models will be neater, still of all-steel construction.

This conversion changes the looks, function, and utility of the M1. If it seems expensive, perhaps one ought to ask how much that beautiful old infantry rifle is worth, would cost to replace, and/or how much it would cost to purchase an equally accurate, new commercial rifle that's practical for use in the field. All of a sudden, the price seems quite reasonable. For more information or ordering, contact York M1 Conversions, Dept. ASG, P.O. Box 262364, Houston, TX 77217; phone toll free outside Texas, (800) 527-2851; inside Texas, (713) 477-8442. ●



**T**HE FALL was hard. Only the resiliency of youth allowed the boy to move stiffly about the narrow ledge and call for help. Passersby heard the plea. Someone appeared with a rope. Full of hope and good intentions, they lowered the life line to the youth.

The boy grabbed hold and his rescuers, shouting encouragement, began to haul him up the rocky cliff. Then it happened—a nightmare all present will never shake. The boy who's hands were just inches from the outstretched arms of his rescuers, slipped to his death.

A life that could have been saved was lost needlessly. Had someone in the crowd known their knots, the boy would be alive and well today. A simple bowline tied in the end of the rope before lowering it would have allowed the boy to slip the loop securely around his body for a safe haul to the top.

Rope is essential to many outdoor activities, and the fellow who is unfamiliar with its qualities and use may find himself with a serious handicap. Only a fool or green-horn figures any old knot or any old rope will do. (For more information on rope, see *American Survival Guide*, September 1986 p. 26.)

*The Encyclopedia of Knots* lists 3,668 knots while the *Ashley Book of Knots* contains over 4,000. These texts include every conceivable rope form known to man. They are somewhat overwhelming in that you get the impression that tying knots is a very complex procedure requiring post graduate study and 16 technical courses to understand and master them.

In reality very few knots are needed and are simple to learn. An entire 100-foot, three-strand monkey bridge for example, may be built using just one knot—the clove hitch. The key is not in knowing a little about a lot of knots, but a lot about a few knots.

Select the right knot for the task at hand and tie it correctly. The right knot has three characteristics: 1) It is easy to tie, 2) It performs well in the job for which it is intended, and 3) It's easy to untie. The wrong knot may come untied when a little strain is applied or it may cinch down so tight that you cannot untie it.

You should know your basic knots well

## Bights, Loops, Overhands:

# Knots

*The right knot is easy to tie and untie and performs well in its intended use . . .*

By David M. Knotts



The bowline rescue knot holds firmly yet is easily untied.

### Reduced Strength Of Manila Rope With Some Common Knots And Hitches.

Full Strength Of Dry Rope	100%
Eye Splice Over Iron Thimble	90%
Short Splice On Rope	80%
Timber Hitch, Round Turn, Half Hitch	65%
Bowline, Slip Knot, Clove Hitch	60%
Square Knot, Weaver's Knot, Sheet Bend	50%
Flemish Eye, Overhand Knot	45%
Massachusetts Institute of Technology	

enough to tie blindfolded, behind your back or with one hand. Conditions are often awkward when a knot is called for. One hand may be needed to steady yourself when the ground is too wet and slippery for a secure foothold or to hold a spar in place. Your life or that of another may very well depend on the speed in which you can tie a proper knot.

All knots and hitches are formed by just three methods of laying rope: bights, loops and overhand knots. Once you get these down, you can tie any knot easily. A bight is formed by turning the rope so that the end is parallel to the rest of the rope. A loop is made by crossing the rope end

under or over the rest of the rope. An overhand knot is made by passing the end of the rope through the loop.

If you think of ropework as a combination of bights, loops, and overhand knots, the learning will be simplified.

Here are seven basic knots and hitches with some of their uses:

**Square knot**—One of the two basic knots used to join two ropes. Use the square knot when tying ropes of equal size together.

**Sheet Bend**—The second of the two basic joining knots. Use the sheet bend to tie two ropes of unequal size together.

**Double Half-hitch**—Sometimes known



as two half-hitches, it is used to tie a rope to a pole or ring.

**Clove Hitch**—One of the most widely used knots in primitive construction work, it is used to start and finish and to lash or secure a rope to a spar or pole.

**Tautline Hitch**—Used to anchor a guy line to a pole or another rope. Although this knot will not slip, you can readily loosen to tighten the rope by pushing the knot up or down the standing part.

**Bowline**—Pronounced boe-lin, this effective knot makes the best, permanent non-slipping loop in a rope. Fundamentally, it's a rescue knot used to tie around yourself or someone who needs a lifeline. In wilderness construction work the knot is often used on a safety line or to haul someone up, down or across an obstacle.

**Timber Hitch**—Used for raising logs or hauling them across the ground.

**Knot For First Aid**—The square knot is universally recognized as the first aid knot. Almost all first aid applications of knots call for this basic knot. The square knot has the advantage of strength and efficiency for holding bandages of splints in place while being easily tied and untied. The knot works well on cloth and bandage material.

**Fishing Knots**—More good fish have been lost because of bad knots than any other cause. Knots that will give you the greatest strength with the smallest bulk while remaining relatively simple to tie are the most desired. Again, practice at home can save a lot of fumbling in the field.

When tying a fishing knot that calls for twisting line around itself, be sure to make at least five turns in the knot. Snug down your knots slowly and evenly, then pull tight. Never try to break a line with your hands. It's much safer to cut it. Inexpensive fingernail clippers are perfect for the job. Here are four popular fishing knots:

**Improved Clinch Knot**—This is the basic knot for tying on lures, hooks, flies, or swivels. It is very effective on monofilament line.

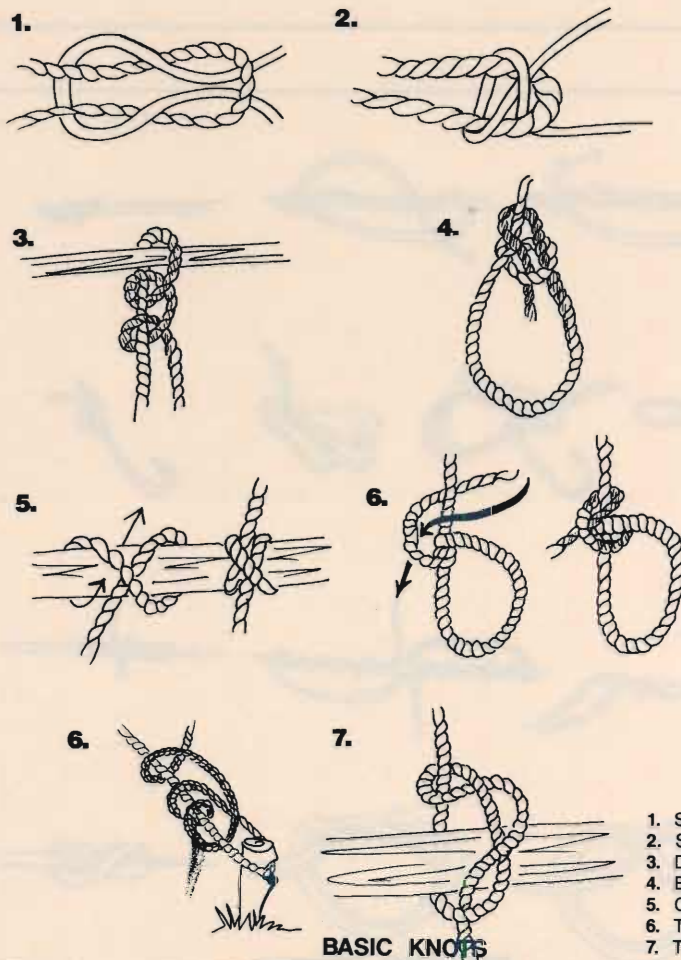
**Palomar Knot**—Properly tied, this knot is said to maintain almost 100 percent line strength. Like the clinch knot, it may be used to tie on lures, hooks, etc.

**Blood Knot**—The best knot for tying line to line when the diameters of the two are equal. It makes a strong, small joint that slips easily through most rod guides.

**Surgeon's Knot**—Where the diameters of two lines are unequal such as tying a leader to a line end, the surgeon's knot serves the purpose well.

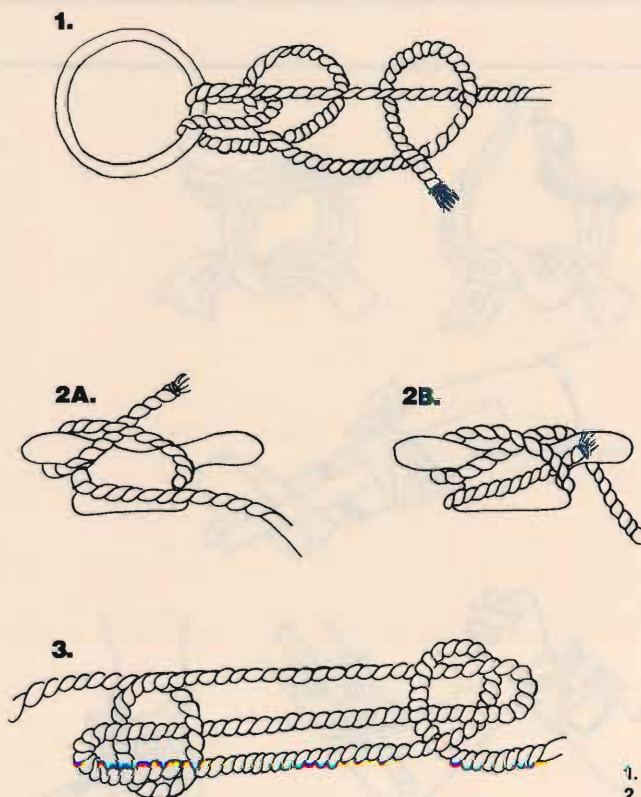
**Nautical Knots**—Many of the basic knots, i.e., square knot, bowline, clove hitch, sheet bend, double half hitch are also basic to activities centered around water craft. However, two other knots supplementing boating needs are listed below:

**Fisherman's Bend**—Also called the anchor's bend, is a handy knot for making



BASIC KNOTS

1. Square Knot
2. Sheet Bend
3. Double Half Hitch
4. Bowline
5. Clove Hitch
6. Tautline Hitch
7. Timber Hitch

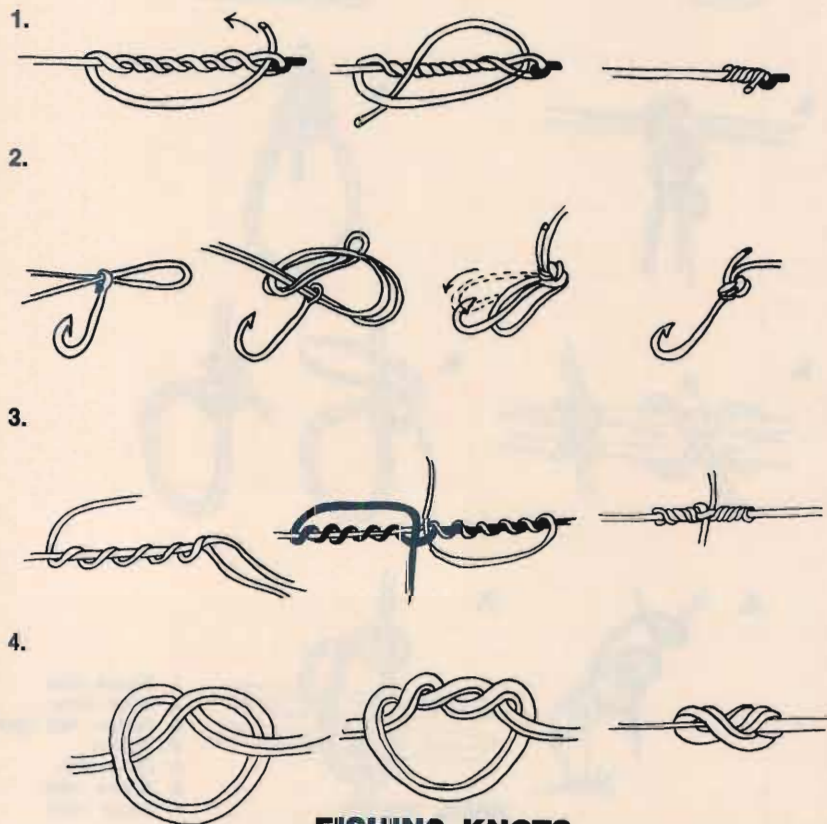


NAUTICAL KNOTS

1. Fisherman's Bend
2. Cleat Fastener
  - A. Correct
  - B. Incorrect
3. Sheep Shank



## Knots



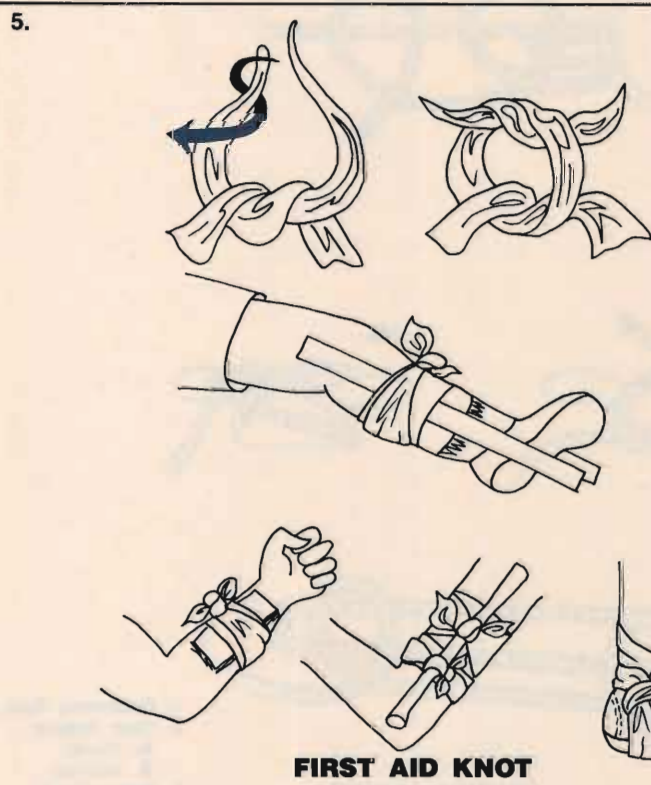
**FISHING KNOTS**

**1. Improved Clinch Knot.** Slip end of line thru eye of lure, and double back. Loop around standing part of line five or six times. Thrust end back up between the eye and the coils then back thru the big loop. Pull up tight and trim end of line.

**2. Palomar Knot.** Pass line thru eye of hook and then return end thru eye, leaving a 3 to 4 inch loop. Hold line and hook with thumb and forefinger of one hand at eye. Use other hand to grasp loop, bring loop back over the double line and tie an overhand knot. Do not tighten knot at this point. Hold overhand knot with one hand. Grasp loop with other hand and pull loop over hook. Pull on line to draw knot to top of eye. Pull either running line or short end to tighten knot. Cut off short end about 1/8 inch from knot.

**3. Blood Knot.** Overlap the ends of the two lines for several inches. Hold at the middle of the overlap and twist one end around the other line five or more turns. Run end back and through strands as shown. Still holding the lines, turn other end around line the same number of turns in the opposite direction of first end. Tighten by pulling up slowly on both lines. Clip off ends short, or tie the knot with one end long for use as a leader for two hook fishing.

**4. Surgeon's Knot.** Overlap ends of lines for several inches. Tie a simple overhand knot treating both strands as one. Pass the two strands thru the loop again. Pull up tight. Trim ends. (For greater strength, tie a "Double Surgeon's Knot" by passing the strands thru the loop four times).



**FIRST AID KNOT**

**5. Square Knot.** The Square Knot for first aid applications.

fast to a buoy, spar, or the ring of an anchor.

**Cleat Fastener**—Many accidents have occurred by the incorrect use of this type of fastener. Unless tied properly, the half hitch cannot be released to free the rope quickly. The correct method for making fast to a cleat calls for making the half hitch which completes the fastening with the free part of the rope. The rope can then be freed without taking up slack in the standing part.

**Sheepshank**—When you need to shorten a rope or bypass a weak spot without cutting it, you can use the sheepshank. Simply fold the rope to the desired length, into three parts and place a half hitch around each of the doubled sections. Note: sheepshank knots will not hold unless there is constant pressure on both ends of the rope.

Again, like any wilderness skill, the tying of knots takes practice. Don't wait until you need them to begin learning. Start now and the skill will be a part of you forever. ●



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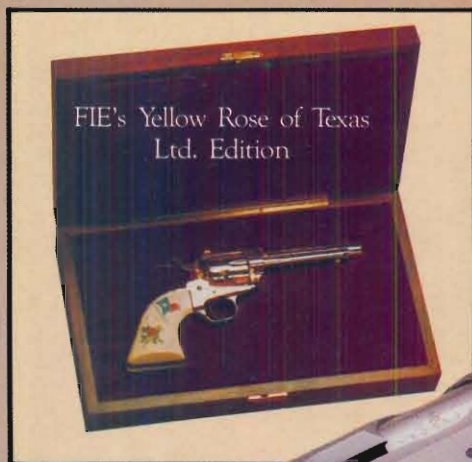
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